

Libby, Montana  
Asbestos Investigation and Cleanup



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Community Involvement Plan

December 12, 2000  
U.S. EPA Region 8  
301 S. Park, Drawer 10096  
Helena, MT 59626 - 0096

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#### **Office of Ecosystem Protection and Remediation - Region 8**

The Office of Ecosystem Protection and Remediation (EPR) oversees the development and implementation of Superfund remedial and removal program activities, as well as Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) activities.

#### **Preparedness, Assessment and Emergency Response Program - Region 8**

Part of EPA's EPR, the Superfund Preparedness, Assessment and Emergency Response and Program (PAER), manages short-term actions and emergency responses. These actions include responses to accidental releases of hazardous substances, as well as short-term work at sites on EPA's NPL. Removal actions are supervised by EPA On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs).

#### **Superfund Remedial Response Program - Region 8**

The Superfund Remedial Response Program is responsible for long-term technical work at Superfund sites, including site assessments, remedial investigations and feasibility studies, treatability tests, and remedial (cleanup) design and action. Each NPL site has a Remedial Project Manager, who supervises private contractors and other parties involved in site study and cleanup. NPL sites located in Montana are managed by the Montana EPA office.

#### **Program Support Group**

THE PROGRAM SUPPORT GROUP IS AN ADVISORY GROUP OF SCIENTISTS AVAILABLE TO SENIOR AGENCY MANAGERS, ON SCENE COORDINATORS (OSCS), AND REMEDIAL PROJECT MANAGERS (RPMS) FOR CONSULTATION ON TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC MATTERS PERTAINING TO TOXICOLOGY, ECOLOGY, HUMAN OR VETERINARY MEDICINE, CHEMISTRY, HYDROGEOLOGY, AND/OR AIR MODELING. SCIENTISTS AND/OR PHYSICIANS WITHIN THE GROUP ARE SOMETIMES CONSULTED TO DEVELOP OR REVIEW ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS PLANS, OR TO DEVELOP OR INTERPRET ENVIRONMENTAL, EPIDEMIOLOGICAL, MEDICAL OR TOXICOLOGICAL DATA. THE PROGRAM SUPPORT GROUP PROVIDES 24 HOUR A DAY/ 7 DAYS A WEEK EMERGENCY RESPONSE CAPACITY TO ASSIST WITH SCIENCE SUPPORT AND COORDINATION DURING ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCIES. MOST INDIVIDUALS WITHIN THE PROGRAM SUPPORT GROUP ACTIVELY PURSUE ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND/OR CLINICAL PRACTICE AT THE REGIONAL OR NATIONAL LEVELS AND MAINTAIN PROFESSIONAL STANDINGS IN THEIR SCIENTIFIC DISCIPLINES; MANY PROGRAM SUPPORT MEMBERS ARE BOARD CERTIFIED IN THEIR RESPECTIVE FIELDS OF EXPERTISE.

months or cost no more than \$2 million, although exemptions may be granted if warranted.

- Remedial Actions - are *long-term* actions that significantly and permanently reduce dangers due to releases or potential releases of hazardous substances that are serious but not immediately life threatening. Remedial responses are referred to EPA's Remedial program and are conducted only at sites on EPA's National Priorities List (NPL).

The discovery of a release or potential release of hazardous substances initiates EPA's Removal Program. EPA receives notice from the National Response Center or is contacted directly by states, communities, industries or individuals. An EPA On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) goes to the site, evaluates the situation, and based upon this evaluation determines the removal action to be taken. Superfund money may be used to clean up the site if those responsible for the release cannot or will not conduct the cleanup, or if state or local agencies are unable to respond. Other government agencies may be called upon to assist when necessary, depending upon the nature and extent of the release.

Some removals are paid for and conducted by those responsible for creating the release. In addition to past and present owners or operators, those responsible may include generators, transporters, storers or disposers of hazardous substances. The rest may be paid for and conducted by state or county response teams and funds, or by EPA through Superfund. When Superfund money is used, EPA may take action to force those responsible to reimburse the federal government for clean up costs.

## **Relevant EPA Groups**

EPA administers and enforces the nation's environmental laws. Based in Washington, D.C., it includes 10 regional offices, each of which includes community relations and technical staff involved in Superfund site cleanups. EPA Region 8 encompasses Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Montana. The EPA Region 8 regional office, located in Denver, Colorado includes several offices, branches, and sections related to the Superfund Program. In addition, there is an EPA Region 8 office located in Helena, MT. See Appendix A for the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the EPA staff and managers for the Libby, MT asbestos investigation and cleanup.

## **Superfund Community Involvement Section - Region 8**

This section, part of EPA's Office of Communication and Public Involvement, oversees communication between EPA and all residents, public officials, media representatives, and community groups associated with Superfund sites. The Superfund Community Involvement Program for each site involves the planning, coordination, and implementation of activities designed to facilitate communication and enhance community involvement. Each site has at least one Community Involvement Coordinator who works closely with EPA technical staff to keep the local community informed and involved.

Superfund is the nation's program to clean up uncontrolled or abandoned hazardous waste sites. The Federal regulation that guides the Superfund program is the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP), which was revised in 1990. The Superfund law, officially known as the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), was passed by Congress in 1980 and amended in 1986 by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA). Superfund:

- Gives EPA the authority to stop releases or potential releases of hazardous substances;
- Enables EPA to compel those responsible for site contamination to pay for cleanup;
- Provides funding for cleanup when money from responsible parties is not available.

CERCLA requires the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), or the state at state-lead sites, to develop and manage community involvement programs at both fund-lead and enforcement-lead sites. At fund-lead sites, cleanup is paid for with Superfund money; at enforcement-lead sites, potentially responsible parties (PRPs) pay for cleanup. At either type of site, community involvement remains the responsibility of the EPA.

The CERCLA community involvement effort promotes two-way communication between members of the public and the lead government agency responsible for remedial actions. The overall objectives of CERCLA community involvement are as follows:

- Provide the public the opportunity to express comments on and provide input to technical decisions;
- Inform the public of planned and ongoing actions; and
- Identify and resolve conflicts.

EPA's community involvement activities will also address environmental justice issues. Specific environmental justice goals are:

- Raising awareness of equity issues to the remediation team;
- Reviewing past site procedures to determine whether changes need to be made in areas which would impact minorities; and
- Tailoring communications which are sensitive to the language and cultural differences of the community to assure that all citizens have equal opportunity to become involved in EPA's decision making process.

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## 1.1 Purpose

This Libby, MT Site (Site) Community Involvement Plan (CIP) has been prepared in accordance with the Community Relations in Superfund: A Handbook, Office of Emergency and Remedial Response, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), January 1992 (Handbook). The Handbook outlines the community involvement requirements stipulated in the National Contingency Plan (NCP), the regulations that govern Superfund.

The CIP is used by EPA in conducting community involvement activities as part of the Superfund process. The NCP requires a CIP for all removal actions lasting longer than 120 days and for all sites listed on the NPL. The CIP serves as a basis for identifying community concerns and planning two way communication so that the public gets questions answered, and concerns publically addressed. Community involvement staff strive to anticipate, identify, and acknowledge areas of conflict so that decisions can be made with full understanding of community views.

Regulations require EPA to conduct community interviews and, based on these interviews, to prepare a CIP that includes a description of the site background, history of community involvement at the Site (including major community concerns), community relations objectives, and a list of affected and interested groups and individuals. The community interviews form the foundation for developing a plan for keeping abreast of community concerns.

It is important to emphasize that the CIP often presents opinions of residents and other interviewees. The information obtained in these interviews and summarized in the CIP reflects interviewees' responses regardless of whether those responses are factually precise. The interview questions for the Site are included in Appendix F.

## 1.2 Overview

This section contains an overview of the following programs and groups:

- Superfund Program emphasizing the Removal Program;
- Relevant EPA groups;
- Other relevant government groups;
- Other relevant non-governmental groups; and
- The Libby Community Advisory Group

### Superfund Program

Under the Superfund program, EPA investigates hazardous waste sites and is authorized to conduct two types of response actions:

- Removal Actions - are *short-term* actions designed to stabilize or clean up incidents involving hazardous substances that present an imminent threat to human health or the environment. Removal actions can last no longer than 12

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## **Environmental Response Team**

The Environmental Response Team (ERT) located in Edison, NJ, is a branch of the Emergency Response Division of EPA's Office of Emergency and Remedial Response located in Washington, DC. ERT includes hazardous waste experts who provide 24-hour technical assistance to EPA regional offices. ERT staff members are involved in the testing of remedial technologies throughout the country, and can provide assistance during Superfund site cleanups.

## **Other Relevant Government Groups**

### **Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry**

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), headquartered in Atlanta, GA, is part of the Public Health Service within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. ATSDR conducts Public Health Assessments at Superfund sites to evaluate data and information on the release of hazardous substances into the environment. ATSDR developed a public health response plan for the Libby area. The plan has three key elements: A review of environmental data to assist the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the state of Montana in identifying and eliminating human exposures to asbestos, medical testing of people who live in the Libby vicinity, and health education for community residents and local health care providers. ATSDR is leading a major health screening in Libby called the Libby Community Environmental Health Project. See Appendix A for the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the ATSDR staff involved with the Libby, MT Site.

### **Montana Department of Environmental Quality**

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), as part of its own Montana Superfund Program, acts as the support agency during EPA-led study and cleanup at federal Superfund sites in Montana. The Remediation Division responsibilities include investigation and cleanup activities at state and federal Superfund sites and reclaiming abandoned mine lands. Other regulatory activities include permitting, and licensing underground storage tanks (USTs); implementing corrective actions at sites with leaking underground storage tanks (LUSTs); administering the Petroleum Tank Release Cleanup Fund (reimbursing owners for the costs of petroleum release cleanup); and overseeing groundwater remediation at sites where agricultural and industrial chemical spills have caused groundwater contamination. These activities help to protect human health and the environment; to prevent exposure to hazardous substances that have been released to soil, sediment, surface water, or groundwater; and to ensure compliance with applicable state and federal regulations.

MDEQ's involvement in the Site cleanup includes reviewing and commenting on Site work plans and studies, participating in community involvement activities, and providing technical assistance to EPA. See Appendix A for the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the MDEQ staff involved with the Libby, MT Site.

### **Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services**

The Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (MDPHHS) is charged with improving and protecting the health, well-being and self-reliance of all Montanans. The mission of the Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Section is to promote healthy living in Montana communities by preventing and reducing the burden of chronic disease. The Section includes Montana's Healthy Communities Initiative and chronic disease epidemiology activities.

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Surveillance and needs assessment activities are undertaken by section staff to monitor chronic diseases, associated risk factors and chronic disease-related needs. Based on documented needs, the section develops implements and evaluates interventions and education programs aimed at reducing the burden of chronic disease in Montana. These include a variety of strategies such as health care quality improvement programs, patient and professional education programs; public awareness and media campaigns; and clinical screening services. Program objectives are met through collaboration and coordination with many partners across the state of Montana, including public and private health care providers, voluntary health organizations, consumer groups and other organizations involved in prevention and health promotion efforts. MDPHHS maintains a Lincoln County office located in Libby at 117 Commerce Way.

MDPHHS staff involved in activities at the Libby, MT Site include the State Medical Officer and the State Epidemiologist. Their involvement in Libby includes reviewing and commenting on medical studies, participating in community involvement activities, and providing technical assistance to EPA and ATSDR. See Appendix A for the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the MDPHHS staff involved with the Libby, MT Site.

#### **Lincoln County Department of Environmental Health**

The Lincoln County Department of Environmental Health (LCDEH) administers a broad array of programs related to public health protection. General categories include air quality, animal control, consumer protection, solid waste management, subdivision review, and water quality. See Appendix A for the name, address, and telephone number of Lincoln County Environmental Health Department staff involved with the Libby, MT Site.

#### **Other Relevant Non-governmental Groups**

##### **St John's Lutheran Hospital**

St. John's Lutheran Hospital is a not for profit, non-denominational community hospital and healthcare system. The facilities include 29 in-patient beds; a 24 hour emergency department; and complete outpatient services including an urgent care clinic, an up-to-date imaging department, cardiac and physical rehabilitation services, home health, hospice and community outreach. Service for minor illness, emergencies, and medical problems is available in Libby from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm. Outreach clinics are also located in Troy and Eureka. See Appendix A for the name, address, and telephone number of St. John's Lutheran Hospital staff involved with the Libby, MT Site.

#### **Community Groups**

##### **Libby Community Advisory Group**

The Libby Community Advisory Group is a diverse group of community representatives who regularly meet to discuss issues relevant to the investigation and cleanup of asbestos in Libby as well as the Community Medical Testing Program that was carried out from May 2000 to November, 2000. Community members set the agendas and the meeting dates. The group has chosen the second and fourth Thursdays of each month for their meetings. See Appendix A for the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of Libby CAG members.

## **Lincoln County Asbestos Victims Relief Organization**

The Lincoln County Asbestos Victims Relief Organization was initially formed for the purpose of disseminating information and possibly finding medical assistance for people who were diagnosed but couldn't afford immediate expenses for health care such as travel and emergency medication. The focus has since changed since more information is generally available in Libby, medical screening began and the W.R. Grace medical program came into existence. The organization can be an advocate for any victim who wishes to be represented. At present, membership is limited to officers and board of director members. In the future, as the situation changes, the group has discussed the possibility of becoming a full time information center to replace the EPA Information Center.

### **1.3 Organization**

EPA has prepared this CIP for the Site based upon information from interviews with a wide range of community members, as well as from other relevant sources. The CIP describes the concerns and comments of the community and outlines community involvement activities planned for the Site. EPA is committed to fully involving community members in site activities and decisions. These activities and opportunities for community involvement are explained in the pages that follow. EPA Region 8 will be responsible for implementing the community involvement program outlined in this CIP. The CIP will be modified if necessary, to meet changing needs as activities for the Site progress.

The remaining CIP sections are as follows:

- 2.0     **Site Background:** This section identifies the Site location, land uses in the neighborhoods which comprise the Site, recent agency activities at the Site, and the potential nature of the threat of the hazardous substances found at the Site.
- 3.0     **Community Background and Concerns:** This section describes the communities located within the Site boundaries and documents their concerns.
- 4.0     **Objectives of the Community Involvement Program:** This section provides the basis for, and clarifies the goals of, the CI program.
- 5.0     **Community Involvement Activities:** This section describes the activities tailored to meet specific community needs and planned to promote effective community involvement at the Site.
- 6.0     **References:** This section contains a list of references used in the CIP.
- 7.0     **Resources:** This section summarizes the information contained in the CIP appendices.

This section contains a brief description of the Libby Site. Specific details include descriptions of:

- Location;
- Mining operations;
- Nature of the potential threat of hazardous substances; and
- Recent agency activities.

## **2.1 Location**

The Site is located in Libby, Montana. Libby lies in the northwest corner of Montana in Lincoln County approximately 35 miles from the Idaho border and 65 miles south of the Canadian border. Libby is bounded to the north by the Kootenai River and surrounded to the south by the Cabinet Mountains and Cabinet Mountain Wilderness area. The Site lies within Sections 3 and 10, T30N, R31W of the Libby Quadrangle. A Site map is contained in Figure 2-1.

Libby sits in the Kootenai River valley at an elevation of 2,066 feet and is surrounded by the Kootenai National Forest. The Libby Dam confines the Kootenai River about 17 miles north of town and creates the 90 mile long Lake Koocanusa that extends north into Canada. Montana Highway 37 parallels the Kootenai River and Lake Koocanusa and connects Libby to U.S. Highway 93 to the north. U.S. Highway 2 runs through Libby and connects Libby to the nearest towns of: Kalispell 90 miles to the southeast and Troy 18 miles to the northwest. The Burlington Northern Railroad maintains the railroad that runs through Libby connecting Libby to Whitefish, Montana and Spokane, Washington. Freight service runs daily and Amtrak service is available 4 days a week. Libby also has a small airport with a 5,000 foot runway.

## **2.2 Mining Operations**

Hydrated magnesium silicates in which varying amounts of iron ( $\text{Fe}^{++}$ ), sodium ( $\text{Na}^{+}$ ), and aluminum ( $\text{Al}^{3+}$ ) can substitute for calcium and magnesium in the solid solution. Vermiculite, an hydrated magnesium silicate mineral that resembles mica in appearance, was discovered just outside Libby, Montana in 1881 by gold miners. Initial mining operations began in the early 1920's on the vermiculite ore body located approximately 7 miles northeast of Libby. By the late 1920's, operations were at full scale under the name of the Universal Zonolite Insulation Company (Zonolite).

The Zonolite mining operations of the vermiculite ore body were fairly typical. Vermiculite ore was strip mined using conventional equipment and then processed in an on-site dry mill to remove waste rock and overburden. The processed ore was then trucked down Rainy Creek Road to a screening plant, which separated the milled ore into five size ranges for use in various products. From there, the material was shipped, predominantly by rail, across the country. The processed ore was either used as is for various products or was expanded, also known as exfoliated, prior to use. Expansion is accomplished by heating the ore, usually in a dry kiln, to approximately 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit. The heating process boils the water trapped in the crystalline matrix of the vermiculite, thus expanding the material by a factor of 10 to 15 fold.

In 1963, W.R. Grace & Co. bought the Zonolite mining operations and operated it in a similar fashion until the Mine closed in 1990. A wet milling process was added to the operation in 1975, which operated in tandem with the dry mill, until the dry mill was taken off line in 1985. Expansion operations at the Export Plant ceased in Libby sometime prior to 1981, although this area was still used to bag and export milled ore until mining operations were stopped in 1990. In 1994 W. R. Grace & Co. sold the mine area to the Kootenai Development Company, who are the current owners.

In 1985, W.R. Grace & Co. reported reaching a vermiculite production high at the Libby mine of 240,000 tons per year or 50 percent of the vermiculite mined in the U.S. (Grace, 2000). Before the mine closed in 1990, Libby produced about 80 percent of the world supply of vermiculite (Peronard, 2000). Commercially exploited vermiculite is used in agricultural, horticultural, industrial, and construction products such as building insulation and soil conditioner (TVA, 2000). The vermiculite mining operations in Libby occurred at the following four main locations:

- Mine and Mill located on Rainy Creek Road on top of Zonolite Mountain;
- Screening Plant and Railroad Loading Station located astride the Kootenai River at the intersection of Rainy Creek Road and Highway 37, commonly referred to as the Screening Plant;
- Expansion/Export Plant, commonly referred to as the Export Plant, located off Highway 37 where it crosses the Kootenai River; and
- Expansion Plant believed to have been located at the end of Lincoln Road, near 5th Street. The Lincoln Road Expansion Plant apparently went off line sometime in the 1950's, and has since been demolished. Investigations are underway to determine the exact location of this facility.

## **2.3 Nature of Potential Threat of Hazardous Substances**

The vermiculite ore body in Libby contains naturally occurring form of asbestos. Asbestos is a generic term for a group of six naturally-occurring fibrous silicate minerals. The predominant fibrous habit of minerals found at the Libby Site are of the tremolite-actinolite solid solution series known as amphibole asbestos. Asbestos is a recognized human carcinogen and is classified as a hazardous substance as defined by 40 CFR Section 302.4 of the National Contingency Plan (NCP).

Although people can be exposed to asbestos by ingestion (eating, drinking) or possibly on the skin, these are not major exposure routes and do not pose nearly as great a risk as inhalation of airborne asbestos fibers, the primary exposure route. The fibers that are most dangerous to human health are those fibers that are longer than 5 microns and especially those longer than 10 microns, with a length to width ratio of 5:1. These are the fibers that are of respirable size.

Inhalation of asbestos fibers is known to cause three major respiratory diseases: asbestosis, lung cancer and mesothelioma. Asbestosis is a restrictive lung disease which can be fatal. Asbestosis is a disease characterized by fibrotic scarring of the lung and is caused specifically by exposure to asbestos mineral fibers. Mesothelioma is a cancer of the lining of the chest and abdominal cavities. The combination of smoking and exposure to asbestos greatly increases the risk of developing one of these lung cancers.

During operation of the Libby mine and related processing facilities, residents reported that large amounts of dust and fugitive emissions were released into the environment (Peronard, 2000). Residents describe having to halt baseball games as large dust clouds swept through

the ballfield area from the piles of vermiculite at the Export Plant (Peronard, 2000). Data collected by W.R. Grace in 1975 shows levels of airborne asbestos in downtown Libby of 1.5 fibers/cubic centimeter (cc), over 10 times the current occupational limits of 0.1 fibers/cc (Peronard, 2000). Data collected by a contractor to EPA in the 1980's measured airborne asbestos levels at 0.5 fibers/cubic centimeter (cc), five times higher than today's occupational limits, 4.5 miles from the mine site (Peronard, 2000). The contaminated dust and soil created by these fugitive emissions likely remains in the environment and can be re-entrained leading to inhalation exposures. There is extensive literature indicating that at various times workers at the mine site, mill and processing facilities were exposed to high levels of asbestos from fugitive dust emissions (Peronard, 2000). Other environmental releases of asbestos occurred from workers bringing home dust covered clothing and personal vehicles. It is known that asbestos fibers accumulate in indoor environments, and re-entrainment of indoor fibers can multiply indoor ambient air levels 50-fold (Peronard, 2000).

The threat of exposure to workers and residents exists through inhalation of amphibole asbestos at the two former vermiculite processing facilities, the Screening Plant and the Export Plant (Peronard, 2000). Non-enclosed buildings at both facilities contain significant amounts of dust containing asbestos fibers of the length and type of concern (Peronard, 2000). This dust is easily disturbed leading to additional potential inhalation exposures. Surface soils at each property contain in excess of 2% asbestos by weight (Peronard, 2000). These soils are subject to disturbance by wind, tracking through and off the property by human activities, and migration from potential new development and construction which can give rise to additional exposure to asbestos fibers (Peronard, 2000). Subsequent inhalation of these fibers by workers, visitors and on-site residents could cause an immediate public health threat (Peronard, 2000). A description of each of these facilities follows.

### **Former Screening Plant**

The Screening Plant occupies approximately 21 acres of property that is now used for combined commercial/residential use. It is likely that amphibole asbestos contamination has spread to the parcels of land (zoned residential) to the west and south of the Screening Plant proper. During operations the screened ore was moved by conveyor belt across the Kootenai River to a rail loading operation adjacent to a Burlington-Northern Rail Line. Amphibole asbestos contamination has also been found in this area. All of these areas are considered part of the Screening Plant.

Up until May, 2000, the Screening Plant was used as a wholesale nursery; a covered storage facility for recreational vehicles, motor boats, and other equipment; and a farm for medicinal mushrooms. It was also the location of the primary residence for the current property owners and is frequently visited by relatives, including their children and young grandchildren. Its main features were the residence (former lab/office building); an approximately one acre, 40 foot high storage building (i.e., the long shed); several green houses; a series of concrete tunnels that house the mushroom farm, and are also used for storage; several smaller storage units; a tree orchard; and a planting operation.

Currently, the Screening Plant is being cleaned-up as part of the EPA's May, 2000 Action Memorandum (see Section 2.5, Cleanup Activities). To date, the majority of contaminated structures have been demolished at the Screening Plant and contaminated soil has been removed as specified in the EPA's Removal Action Work Plan and associated documents.

The contaminated soil and demolition debris has been stockpiled in and adjacent to the long shed due to issues regarding access to the former Vermiculite Mine. The former Vermiculite Mine is EPA's preferred disposal location. This disposal restriction will delay completion of clean-up at the Screening Plant until Summer 2001.

## **Former Export Plant**

The Export Plant occupies approximately 11 acres of property which is now owned by the City of Libby, and leased to a retail lumberyard. Some amphibole asbestos contamination has been found on adjacent parcels of land which had been used as youth baseball fields, but are now unused. During operations the screened ore was trucked from the Screening Plant to the Export Plant, and staged with various other vermiculite related materials between the ballfields and the Export Plant, and in a few other outlying areas. All of these areas are considered part of the Export Plant. Currently, the Export Plant is used as a retail lumber mill. Its main features are five buildings used to house finished and rough lumber, and other construction related materials. These buildings also contain various milling equipment, tools, and a retail center. The buildings are all of basic wood construction. The Export Plant has paved access to Highway 37, and part of the property is now being used as a lay down area in support of improvements to the Highway 37 Bridge across the Kootenai River.

## **2.4 Recent Agency Activities**

An EPA Emergency Response Team conducted an initial site investigation in Libby, MT on November 23, 1999 in response to requests from the State of Montana, Lincoln County Department of Environmental Health, and City officials of Libby, MT, to address questions and concerns raised by citizens of Libby and the media regarding possible ongoing exposures to asbestos fibers as a result of historical mining, processing, and exportation of asbestos-containing vermiculite. Specifically, a series of reports in the Kalispell Daily Interlake and the Seattle Post-Intelligencer as well as other newspapers, alleged that 192 people have died and 375 are now ill from asbestos-related diseases. This section presents Agency activities associated with sampling and community involvement.

The initial site investigation consisted of the following: a brief inspection of the former mine and processing facilities; interviews with local officials and some members of impacted families; an interview with a pulmonologist in Spokane, WA who specializes in the treatment of asbestos related diseases; and the collection of a small set of environmental samples.

This investigation revealed two important findings. First, there are a large number of current and historic cases of asbestos related diseases centered around Libby, MT. The pulmonologist in Spokane alone was currently treating over 200 cases of asbestos related diseases among people who had either lived in Libby or worked at the mine, and had provided care to dozens more who had already died. Out of this physician's cases were 33 incidents of apparently non-occupational exposures. Of these 33, six had no family or other ties to anyone working at the mine. While anecdotal in nature, these findings suggest definitive health effects from the amphibole asbestos found at Libby.

The second finding was the likelihood that significant amounts of asbestos contaminated vermiculite still remained in and around Libby. It is clear that high concentrations of amphibole asbestos remain in the tailings pile and tailings pond at the former mine itself. In addition, visible piles of unexpanded vermiculite remained at the Screening Plant, and the base material of Rainy Creek Road appeared to contain tailings and sands from the mine. Residents described how piles of expanded and unexpanded vermiculite used to sit at the Export Plant, next to two former youth baseball fields. Children were described as having regularly played in and around these piles. Both expanded and unexpanded vermiculite from waste piles around the mining operations were commonly used by local residents in their

yards and gardens as a soil conditioner (Peronard, 2000), and the expanded vermiculite was used as wall and attic insulation in many homes. Descriptions of historic operations of the mine, mill, and processing centers indicated that large amounts of dust and other fugitive emissions were released into the environment when these operations were still running (Peronard, 2000).

These findings led EPA to initiate a larger scale rapid investigation with the following distinct goals:

- Obtain information on airborne asbestos levels in Libby (a limited number of homes, businesses and the Export Plant and Screening Plant) in order to judge whether time-critical intervention is needed to protect public health.
- Obtain data on asbestos levels in potential source materials (at the Export Plant and Screening Plant), and identify the most appropriate analytical methods to screen and quantify asbestos in source material.

### **Sampling Activities**

In December 1999, the EPA Team, in coordination with the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) and the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (MDPHHS), began sampling for asbestos in Libby. During the December 1999 sampling, the EPA Team collected soil samples from 35 residences, 3 businesses, and several potential "hot spots" associated with historical vermiculite mining activities in Libby. These hot spots include the 21-acre former Screening Plant area, also referred to as the "Railroad Loading Station" or "Raintree Nursery" located on the northeast side of the Kootenai River approximately 4.5 miles northeast of Libby, and the Export Facility, also referred to as the "Export Plant Area" or "Millworks West", located in the city of Libby. Figure 2-2 is an aerial photograph that shows the location of these areas and the vermiculite mine.

### **Why Conduct Environmental Sampling?**

Sampling activities discussed in Section 2.2 are being conducted to determine if there is a current health risk from exposure to asbestos in Libby. If there is a risk, EPA must determine what actions need to be taken to reduce or eliminate them.

The samples were analyzed for possible contamination with asbestos fibers to identify areas with the greatest potential health risks. For all samples, the positive asbestos results were separated into the following fiber types:

- Asbestiform mineral fibers also known as tremolite-actinolite series of asbestos fibers;
- Chrysotile asbestos fibers (formerly used for floor tiles, pipe insulation, etc.); and
- Other fibers.

The fibers were separated in this way because EPA believes the health risks are greatest for the tremolite-actinolite fibers. Also, tremolite-actinolite asbestos fibers are associated with the vermiculite ore mined in Libby.

The fibers found in air and dust samples were also divided into separate size classes. The size classes are as follows:

- Short fibers - 5 to 10 microns; or
- Long fibers - equal to or greater than 10 microns with a length to width ratio of 5 to 1 (5 microns long to 1 micron wide).

This fiber size division was made because health risks are believed to be greater for long fibers. Because some residents have expressed concern about potential health risks from shorter fibers, EPA is looking at these fibers as well.

## **Sampling Results**

The results from indoor air, dust, insulation, soil, and area schools are discussed in this section.

### **Indoor Air Results**

The initial indoor air results from the December sampling were released the week of January 31, 2000. The initial results from the March indoor air sampling were released the week of June 12. The results for both events are discussed in this section.

#### **December/January Results**

In the January 2000 analysis, of the 32 homes and 3 businesses sampled, asbestos fibers greater than 10 microns were found in two homes and at two former vermiculite processing areas, the Export Plant, and the Screening Plant. EPA found tremolite-actinolite asbestos fibers - the kind of asbestos found at the Libby vermiculite mine, at one home and the two former vermiculite processing areas. At the other home, chrysotile asbestos, another type of asbestos fiber formerly used in floor tiles, pipe insulation, etc., was found.

In February 2000, EPA re-analyzed the indoor air samples to identify lower concentrations of asbestos fibers that may be present. From the re-analysis results, EPA identified two additional homes with asbestiform fibers that are associated with the Libby mine.

Results from the February 2000 re-analysis, found 11 locations with asbestiform mineral fibers of low concern, i.e., shorter than 5 microns and seven locations had chrysotile fibers in this same size range. At the other 16 locations, EPA did not detect asbestos fibers in the indoor air samples. The highest indoor air concentration was 0.0003 fibers per cubic centimeter which is about 10,000 times less than the concentrations found 25 to 30 years ago in Libby (CAG, 2000).

The EPA also conducted air sampling in 6 Libby school buildings. No samples had any fibers larger than 5 microns. Three samples found actinolite-tremolite fibers smaller than 5 microns. Chrysotile fibers were found only in the administration building. No samples have been taken to date at school outdoor tracks, that reportedly may contain asbestos (CAG, 2000). However, EPA does plan to sample the outdoor tracks in the future (CAG, 2000).

#### **March/April Results**

**RESULTS TO BE INSERTED WHEN DATA IS AVAILABLE FROM DATABASE**

#### **Dust Sampling Results**

Dust was sampled in 34 properties in places such as window sills and beneath refrigerators where dust is expected to collect. Asbestos fibers greater than 5 microns long were found in

the dust of 18 of the 34 locations sampled (EPA, 2000b). The table below summarizes the results of the asbestos fibers identified in the dust samples.

Type of Asbestos Fibers Found	Number of Samples
Asbestiform fiber greater than 5 microns long	1
Asbestiform fibers less than 5 microns long	7
Chrysotile fibers greater than 10 microns long	9
Chrysotile fibers between 5 and 10 microns long	8
Chrysotile fibers less than 5 microns long	14

Source: EPA Fact Sheet "Asbestos Sampling Results." March 2000.

### Insulation Sampling Results

EPA took insulation samples from 19 homes and 2 businesses (EPA, 2000b). The results from insulation samples show that 2 of the homes and 1 of the businesses sampled had levels between 1.5 and 2 percent fibers by weight (EPA, 2000b). Seven homes had insulation with less than 1 percent fibers by weight (EPA, 2000b). Fibers were not detected in the insulation from the 13 remaining homes sampled in the first analysis (EPA, 2000b). No correlation was apparent between the asbestos found in the insulation and asbestos indoor air concentrations (CAG, 2000).

### Soil Sampling

In December 1999, 176 total soil samples were collected from 35 residential locations. In general, two yard samples, one dirt driveway sample, and one garden sample were taken at each residence. Residential yard samples were composite surface soil collected from a depth of 0 to 2 inches, while the dirt driveway samples were composite surface soil taken from a depth of 0 to 1 inch. Residential garden samples consisted of 0- to 12-inch composite soil samples.

Eighty-five soil samples were collected from 71 stations from the primary Screening Plant area and the horse pasture area south of Rainy Creek and 98 soil samples were collected at the Export Facility during the December 1999 initial investigation. Most of the soil samples at the Screening Plant and Export Facility were surface grab samples collected from a depth of 0 to 2 inches, with co-located soil samples from a depth of 2 to 12 inches collected for about 20 percent of these surface samples. Depending on the size of the waste pile, composite waste pile samples were collected at varying depths, from a few inches up to 2 feet in depth. Results ranged from non-detect to approximately 4 percent tremolite asbestos. Additional soil samples were collected from Rainy Creek Road (52 soil samples) leading to the mine site. Samples on Rainy Creek Road were collected from a depth of 0 to 1 inch.

In March 2000, the EPA Team conducted additional soil sampling in various commercial and potential future residential areas in and around the community of Libby, as well as at the Lincoln County landfill. The March 2000 soil sampling activities are detailed below:

- Screening Plant area - 17 soil samples from 11 stations were collected from a wooded area north of the greenhouses, and 44 samples from 37 stations were collected from an area referred to as "Government Lot 4" south of the horse pasture;
- Export Facility - 29 samples from 17 stations were collected;
- Carney Creek logging area - 15 samples from 5 stations were collected from this logging area adjacent to the lower portion of Rainy Creek Road;
- U.S. Forest Service logging site - 5 samples were collected from this logging area that lies above the "Amphitheater" area adjacent to Rainy Creek Road;
- Kootenai Bluffs Subdivision - 38 samples from 10 lots were collected;
- Zonolite Mountain - 31 samples from 17 stations were collected.

In April 2000, further residential sampling activities were conducted by the EPA Team with the collection of 395 samples at 71 residences. Twelve soil samples were also collected from a triangular-shaped area located between the horse pasture south of Rainy Creek and Highway 37. Results of these 12 samples ranged from non-detect to approximately 8 percent tremolite asbestos.

During June and July 2000, the EPA Team collected the following soil samples: 4 additional samples from the above-mentioned triangular-shaped property; 24 samples from 12 stations in the Screening Plant area; 12 samples from 6 stations located within Government Lot 4 (or "KDC" property south of the Screening Plant); and 16 samples from 2 residences.

In August 2000, soil sampling activities continued in the Libby area. During the month, 12 samples from a residence were collected, as well as 186 samples from the Screening Plant area.

Eighty-five soil samples were collected from 71 stations from the primary Screening Plant area and the horse pasture area south of Rainy Creek and 98 soil samples were collected at the Export Facility during the December 1999 initial investigation. Most of the soil samples at the Screening Plant and Export Facility were surface grab samples collected from a depth of 0 to 2 inches, with co-located soil samples from a depth of 2 to 12 inches collected for about 20 percent of these surface samples. Depending on the size of the waste pile, composite waste pile samples were collected at varying depths, from a few inches up to 2 feet in depth. Results ranged from non-detect to approximately 4 percent tremolite asbestos. Additional soil samples were collected from Rainy Creek Road (52 soil samples) leading to the mine site. Samples on Rainy Creek Road were collected from a depth of 0 to 1 inch.

### **Libby Asbestos Cleanup**

In April 2000, EPA and W.R. Grace & Co. entered into negotiations to determine how the Export Plant and Screening Plant would be cleaned up. However, on April 18, 2000, W.R. Grace & Co. informed EPA that they were not interested in signing a consensual clean-up agreement for clean-up work at 2 former vermiculite processing areas in Libby. On May 23, 2000, EPA issued a Unilateral Administrative Order to W.R. Grace & Co. ordering them to clean up asbestos at their former vermiculite Export Plant next to the old ballfields on U.S. Highway 37. Also on May 23, 2000, EPA signed an "Action Memorandum" stating that EPA will clean up the former W.R. Grace & Co. Screening Plant located at the base of Rainy Creek Road on U.S. Highway 37.

### **Former Export Plant**

In late-July 2000, W.R. Grace began mobilization activities to clean-up the former Export Plant. The former Export Plant is owned by the City of Libby. The City of Libby leases the

land to the owners of Millworks West. URS and AC&S (W.R. Grace contractors) inventoried all of the Millworks West property prior to beginning any clean-up activities. Upon completion of the inventory, AC&S personnel began cleaning the inventory using both wet-wiping methods, and vacuum cleaners equipped with high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters. Once cleaned, the majority of the inventory was transported to the temporary Millworks West facility located on Highway 2 South. The remainder of the inventory was placed into storage on site. Any items which could not be adequately decontaminated were transported to the former mine site as contaminated waste.

URS decontaminated the buildings located at the former Export Plant site. The buildings were decontaminated using both wet-wiping methods, and vacuum cleaners equipped with HEPA filters. Once the buildings were adequately cleaned, based on a visual inspection of the building by URS along with a representative of the EPA, a minimum of five final clearance air samples were collected within each building. These samples were analyzed using Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM) to ensure that fiber concentrations within the building are below clearance criteria. At this time, the planer building, the pole barn, the warehouse, the small shed and the scale barn have been cleared for reoccupancy.

URS began removing contaminated soils from the former export plant site. URS is planning on removing up to 18 inches of soil from the entire site. The soil was removed in 100' x 100' grids. Once a grid was cleared, soil samples were collected from the remaining soil and analyzed for asbestos content using polarized light microscopy (PLM). URS then back filled the grid with clean soil. The contaminated soil is being transported to the former mine site along with any contaminated debris. URS has cleared and back filled all of the grids west of the planer building.

Prior to clean up operations commencing at the former export plant, KES (define), with an EPA representative, collected ambient air samples along the perimeter of the site to determine background fiber levels on the site. Once clean up operations commenced and a regulated area was established, the perimeter samples were collected on a daily bases, and will continue to be collected whenever work at done at the site. The perimeter ambient air samples are collected to ensure that fibers are not being generated by the clean-up operations and migrating off site. In addition, KES collects personal air samples on workers within the regulated area to ensure that workers are not being exposed to elevated levels of asbestos fibers.

All of the work being performed at the former export plant by URS was performed under the direct supervision of an EPA representative. All modifications, deletions, or additions to the URS Work Plan for this effort must be approved by the EPA, or the EPA's representative prior to being implemented by URS or it's representatives.

### **Former Screening Plant**

In June 2000, the EPA and their contractors began mobilization activities for the clean-up of the former Screening Plant. The first activity completed as part of the clean-up was a comprehensive inventory of the contaminated personal property at the former Screening Plant. Identified contaminated property was decontaminated prior to leaving the former Screening Plant, or, if unable to be decontaminated as determined by an asbestos cleanup

expert, was placed aside for disposal. Upon completion of the inventory clean-up of the former Screening Plant was initiated.

Starting in July 2000, contaminated structures were demolished. Demolition involved tearing down building utilizing a large excavator, loading demolition debris into dump trucks, and stockpiling of demolition debris to a central location on the former Screening Plant. During demolition the structures and equipment were constantly wet down to suppress dust. In addition, to insure personnel conducting the demolition were using proper respiratory protection they were monitored with personal air monitors. Finally, the site perimeter was continuously monitored during demolition activities to insure that asbestos contaminated dust was not leaving the former Screening Plant.

Following demolition of structures, contaminated soil, as identified during site investigations, was removed. Contaminated soil was removed in 100' x 100' grids. Once a grid is cleared, soil samples are collected from the remaining soil and analyzed for asbestos content using polarized light microscopy (PLM). Contaminated soil was removed to a depth of approximately four feet on the north side of the former Screening Plant. Because contaminated soil remained on this side of the property, it was covered with a membrane material. This membrane delineates clean soil from asbestos contaminated soil. On the southern side of the site, contaminated soil was removed to a depth of approximately 18 inches. Sampling on this side of the site identified it as clean (i.e., no asbestos contaminated soil) following excavation activities. Contaminated soil removal involved excavation with continuous dust suppression, and stockpiling of soil into the long shed on the former Screening Plant. As was the case for structure demolition activities, personnel and the site perimeter were continuously monitored.

Upon completion of contaminated soil removal, clean-fill material was imported to cover the north side of the former Screening Plant. The southern side of the site was not covered due to the fact that it was identified as clean through sampling, and because of the shallow depth of excavation. The site was shut-down during Winter 2000 - 2001. Shut down activities involved covering the contaminated soil stockpile, placement of erosion controls including trenches, hay bales, sedimentation basins, and silt fencing. The former Screening Plant will be monitored during winter months to insure that erosion controls are effective and to conduct necessary maintenance activities.

The final disposal location for the contaminated soil and demolition debris has not been determined. As a result, the clean-up of the former Screening Plant will not be completed until Summer 2000. At that time, it is anticipated that a disposal location will be identified and contaminated soil and demolition will be removed to that location.

### **Libby Community Environmental Health Project**

The U.S. Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) in collaboration with the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services, the Lincoln County Department of Environmental Health, the MDEQ, and the EPA conducted a Community Environmental Health Project to address human health concerns related to possible exposure to asbestos in the Libby, MT area. The following public health actions were developed and implemented by ATSDR in coordination with these other agencies:

- A medical testing program for people who lived or worked in the Libby area during the time of highest exposure.
- Collection and analysis of medical and epidemiologic information to understand the nature and extent of asbestos-related disease in the community.

- Cooperation with other involved agencies to recommend actions that can be taken to limit further exposure to asbestos and to mitigate or prevent adverse health effects.
- Provide residents complete and current information on asbestos-related health risks. Work with area physicians and other medical professionals to help them obtain up-to-date information on the diagnosis and treatment of asbestos-related diseases.

The Medical Testing Program was a joint effort designed to identify and examine people whose health may have been affected from having been exposed to asbestos in and near Libby, MT. The program is also evaluating participant's current health status.

ATSDR provided a public comment period in March and April 2000 inviting the public to provide comment on the medical testing protocol to be used in the Medical Testing Program. The medical testing began in June 2000 and lasted approximately 4 ½ months. The testing included the following:

- A set of chest x-rays;
- A pulmonary function test; and
- Questions about personal medical history.

Participants will be notified of the interview results, breathing test, and initial x-ray results via letter at the end of the project. The x-ray films are reviewed first by a local radiologist and then by three independent radiologic experts (not from Libby). A letter explaining the x-ray results will be sent to each participant at their home address. The films and a copy of the results letter will be forwarded to the doctor specified by the participant. If a participant is confirmed to have symptoms consistent with asbestos-related lung problems, the participant will be referred to a physician (the participant's personal physician or another qualified physician). Participants who have no current lung problems or symptoms will be instructed to contact their personal physicians if they develop breathing problems in the future.

Those eligible for testing include 1) former employees of W.R. Grace/Zonolite in the Libby area and household members of former employees, and 2) persons that are at least 18 years old and lived, worked, or attended school in Libby for at least 6 months prior to December 31, 1990.

### **Community Involvement Activities**

EPA has conducted the following community involvement activities:

- Conducted community interviews;
- Facilitated formation of Community Advisory Group (CAG);
- Established Libby Information Center;
- Conducted public meetings;
- Sponsored open houses;
- Provided direct informational mailings;

- Published weekly advertisements;
- Published information on the Internet; and
- Co-sponsored and co-planned a 3-day Conference on Asbestos and Public Health

A description of each of these activities follows.

### **Conducted Community Interviews**

EPA conducted approximately 80 community interviews with residents who had their homes sampled and other Libby community members and leaders. The objective of the interviews was to find out how the interviewee or their family members may have been exposed to asbestos and to assess community concerns about asbestos and find out how to best keep the public informed.

### **Facilitated Formation of Community Advisory Group**

EPA facilitated the formation of a Community Advisory Group (CAG). The CAG serves as a public forum for representatives of diverse community interests to present and discuss their needs and concerns related to the Libby Site. The CAG is designed as a mechanism for all affected and interested parties in a community to have a choice and actively participate in the decision-making process. A CAG allows EPA to exchange information with members of the affected community and encourages CAG members to discuss site issues and activities among themselves. The CAG also can provide a public service to the rest of the affected community by representing the community in discussions regarding the site and by relaying information from these discussions back to the rest of the community.

The first CAG information meeting was held on January 20, 2000 at the Libby City Hall. A CAG planning meeting was held on February 3, 2000. The CAG requested EPA to help them retain the services of a qualified facilitator. Mr. Gerald Mueller, a qualified facilitator chosen by a 5-person subcommittee of the newly formed CAG, was introduced at the February 3, 2000. During the planning meeting, the purpose of the CAG, the roles and responsibilities of the members, and the meeting procedures were established.

The CAG meetings are currently held on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. Community members continue to set the agendas and discuss issues relevant to the investigation and cleanup of asbestos in Libby as well as the community Medical Testing Program. Summaries of the meetings are posted on the EPA web page at: <http://www.epa.gov/region8/superfund/libby> and on the City of Libby web page at: <http://www.libbymontana.com/public.html> See Appendix A for a list of CAG members.

### **Established Libby Information Center**

EPA officially established a local Information Center in Libby, MT on December 16, 1999. The Center was established to provide the community with information about EPA's sampling and clean-up activities and the potential health effects from asbestos. The Information Center is staffed full-time by Linda Newstrom and is located at 501 Mineral Avenue. The telephone number at the Information Center is (406) 293-6194. The EPA Information Center in Libby can also be accessed on the Internet at: <http://www.libbymontana.com/public.html>. The Information Center hours are as follows.

Monday	8:30 am-5:00 pm
Tuesday	8:30 am-5:00 pm
Wednesday	8:30 am-5:00 pm
Thursday	8:30 am-5:00 pm

Friday                      8:30 am-5:00 pm

ATSDR shares the office in Libby with EPA. Their receptionist can be reached at (406) 293-2728.

### **Conducted Public Meetings**

EPA held the following four public meetings to date:

- December 1, 1999;
- March 22, 2000;
- February 2, 2000; and
- July 13, 2000.

All four meetings were held to discuss sampling results with the community. The meetings were well-attended and consisted of a presentation of EPA's activities, sampling results, and future plans and also provided a question and answer period.

### **Sponsored Open Houses**

EPA held an Open House on March 21 through March 23, 2000 at the EPA Information Center in Libby. During the Open House, EPA staff were available to answer questions regarding the sampling activities in the Libby area.

### **Provided Direct Informational Mailings**

EPA mailed approximately 3,800 postcards to Libby residents and businesses. The postcard included a business reply postcard that requested recipients to return the card if they wanted to be removed from the mailing list or needed to provide mailing name and address corrections.

EPA to date has also mailed 2 informational fact sheets to area residents and businesses. The first fact sheet provided information about the asbestos sampling activities being conducted in the Libby, MT area. This fact sheet was mailed in February 2000 to approximately 3,800 addresses. The second fact sheet provided information on the asbestos sampling results. This fact sheet was mailed in March 2000 to approximately 3,600 addresses. Both fact sheets are available in Adobe Acrobat format on the Internet at: <http://www.epa.gov/region8/superfund/libby>. They are also available in the EPA Information Center in Libby, MT.

### **Published Weekly Questions and Answers**

Beginning in February, 2000 EPA placed weekly frequently asked Questions and Answers in The Montanian, The Western News, and the Tobacco Valley News. The recognizable format allows people to easily find and refer to the paid ads. They offer information on a variety of subjects such as sampling, cleanup, medical testing, Community Advisory Group Meetings etc.

## **Published Information on the Internet**

EPA publishes information on the Site on both the EPA web page and the city of Libby web page. The addresses for these web pages are as follows:

- <http://www.epa.gov/region8/superfund/libby>; and
- <http://www.libbymontana.com/public.html>.

## **Co-sponsored and co-planned a 3-day Conference on Asbestos and Public Health**

At the request of community members, EPA initiated the planning of a Conference on Asbestos and Public Health in Libby. The Conference was funded primarily by EPA, but planned in conjunction with many federal, state, and local agencies and residents of Libby. It was held on September 21 - 23 in Libby, Montana at the VFW Community Hall. The Conference included presentations by many authorities on health and environmental topics related to asbestos. Between 50 and 100 area residents attended at least a portion of the conference.

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## Community Background and Concerns

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This section contains a description of the Libby, MT community located within the Libby Site and summarizes their major concerns regarding the anticipated Superfund removal actions. Section 3.1 contains a community profile of Libby, MT. Section 3.5 describes the major community concerns, the interviewing process EPA employed to identify these concerns, and a summary of the interview results.

### 3.1 Libby Community Profile

This section contains the following background information for the Libby, MT community:

- Community history;
- Population and demographics;
- Employment and income;
- Tourism;
- Education;
- Religious institutions;
- Recreation; and
- Community organizations.

A brief discussion of each of these topics follows.

#### Community History

Libby, MT was settled in the late 1800's by gold miners and trappers. The town of Libby was built on the railroad right-of-way in 1892. The town was originally called Libby Creek, however the name was shortened to Libby in 1904. Libby was incorporated in 1909.

Libby was a typical small western mining and timber town. A building boom took place between 1892 and 1894. The wood was supplied by the timber industry and other building materials came from two brick yards and a local marble quarry. By 1894, 16 blocks had been laid out in the downtown area and lots were being sold.

The advent of the railroads increased the demand for timber. Log drives carried the timber from around Libby down the Kootenai River to mills located downstream in Canada. These annual log drives continued into the early 1900's when the Montana legislature decided that Montana cut timber had to be milled in Montana. As a result of this legislation local mills began to prosper. In 1906, a large mill was built in Libby. Following a fire in 1910, Julius Neils, purchased the mill. The J. Neils Lumber Company eventually became the largest single operation in Montana (Libby, 2000).

Vermiculite was discovered in Libby in 1881 by gold miners. In 1913, a vermiculite mountain, where the Libby mine is now located, was discovered (Grace, 2000). In 1919, Edward Alley discovered the unique exfoliating or expansion properties of vermiculite and in the 1920's the Zonolite Company formed and began mining vermiculite. In 1963, W.R.

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Grace & Co. bought the Zonolite mining operations. The Mine closed in 1990. At its peak, vermiculite production reached more than 200,000 tons annually (Grace, 2000).

In 1951, Congress authorized the construction of Libby Dam. The Columbia River Treaty between Canada and the United States was signed in 1961 and ratified in 1964. This treaty provided for construction of three storage dams in the Canadian Columbia River Basin and allowed the United States to construct Libby Dam. Construction began in 1966 and was completed in 1972. The Libby Dam was built to provide flood protection for the Kootenai and lower Columbia Rivers, as well as to provide an additional source of hydroelectric power. Prior to construction of Libby Dam, flooding along the Kootenai River in Montana, Idaho, and British Columbia was a common Spring occurrence. A total of \$522 million in flood damages were caused by the Kootenai River from 1948 through 1961 (ACE, 1996).

Approximately 76 percent of the land around Libby is public and is part of the Kootenai National Forest (Libby). There are two major private landowners Plum Creek Timber and Burlington Northern own approximately 14 percent. The rest of the private land is individually owned (Libby).

## Population and Demographics

According to the 1990 US Census, Lincoln County has a total population of approximately 18,700. The major communities in Lincoln County are Eureka, Fortine, Libby, Rexford, Trego, and Troy. Libby is the County seat and is by far the largest community in the County. The 1990 US Census counted 2,800 residents residing within the city limits and another 11,000 living within a 4 mile radius of the town for a total population of 13,800.

According to the US Census Equal Employment Opportunity File, ethnic minorities make up approximately 3 percent of the Lincoln County population. The largest ethnic minority population is Native American at 1.6 percent. Other ethnic minorities living in the Lincoln County are reported to African American, Asian or Pacific Islander, Hispanic, or other.

The 1990 US Census lists the median age in Lincoln County as 35.3 years. Just over 12 percent of the County population is over 65 years of age. School age children, age 5-17, comprise 23 percent of the Lincoln County population. Adults ages 18 to 64 sometimes called the working age population comprise 58 percent of the Lincoln County population.

Lincoln County witnessed a significant decline in population in the early 1980s following the completion of the Libby Dam project on the Kootenai River. Although the timber and mineral extractive industries declined by some 40 to 65 percent, the area's population grew by 7.1 percent in the last 8 years. Population expansions are predicted to have a 1 to 2 percent growth rate through the year 2002 (EDC, 2000). In 1998, the birth rate in Lincoln County was less than 1 percent with 113 recorded births out of a population of 18,700 (MDPHHS). The marriage rate in the same year was 8.2 per 1,000 population (MDPHHS).

## Employment and Income

This section contains employment and income information for Lincoln County. Lincoln County, Montana, has a 24-year history of annual double-digit employment. It's economy is based on natural resource extraction, government employment,

## Community Background and Concerns

manufacturing and health care services. Table 3-1 lists the percentage of employed residents in 1998 by occupational category for Lincoln County and Montana state-wide.

**Table 3-1: Lincoln County Employment by Occupational Category**

Employment Occupation Category	Lincoln County (%)	Montana (%)
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing	1.63	80.49
Mining	0.28	1.42
Construction	3.45	5.18
Manufacturing	19.17	6.64
Transportation, Communication, and Utilities	2.92	5.11
Wholesale Trade	1.23	5.15
Retail Trade	19.19	22.32
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	3.47	4.62
Services	21.12	28.86
Government	27.44	19.34

Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Office of Research & Analysis.

Recent Department of Labor statistics shows an annual unemployment rate of 13.1 percent. The continued decline within the timber industry has resulted in a relatively large number of skilled underemployed persons living in the county. With the high annual unemployment rate for the past 25 years, ranging from 11 to 18 percent, Lincoln County is designated a labor surplus area. Skilled wage rates in Lincoln County (as well as in Montana as a whole) are among the lowest in the United States (EDC, 2000).

The top ten Lincoln County major employers in 1999 are listed in Table 3.2

**Table 3-2: Top Ten Lincoln County Employers in 1999**

Name of Employer	Number of Employees
Stimson Lumber Company	340
Kootenai National Forest	276
Libby Public School District	203
St. John's Lutheran Hospital	182

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Name of Employer	Number of Employees
Lincoln County Government	135
Owens & Hurst Lumber	120
Ksanka Plum Creek Timber	118
Eureka Public School District	113
Libby Care Center	92
Rosauer's Food & Drug	91

Source: EDC, 2000

According to the US Department of Commerce the 1999 per capita personal income in Lincoln County was \$14,190 or 56 percent of the national average. This compares to a 1999 per capita personal income for the state of Montana of \$19,660 or 78 percent of the national average. The 1990 US Census puts approximately 14.1 percent of the Lincoln County population below the poverty level.

The total number of households in Lincoln County estimated by the 1990 US Census is 6,735. The median home value is \$47,900 and the median monthly rent is \$280 (EDC, 2000).

### Tourism

Lincoln County is located between two of the fastest growing tourism regions of the Pacific Northwest, the Flathead Valley of Montana (Whitefish and Kalispell) and the Elk and Columbia Valleys of British Columbia. It is within easy driving distance of major population centers such as Spokane, Calgary and Missoula. Nevertheless tourism development to date has been restrained, reflecting the region's dependence on natural resource industries (EDC). The tourism development strategy for the region calls on development of a number of new tourism markets, including attracting high scale European visitors arriving through the Calgary and Vancouver gateways, development of the golfing market originating in Washington State, Montana and Calgary, as well as placing more emphasis on the adventure tourism market (EDC).

At the moment the majority of tourism accommodation is located in the towns of Libby and Eureka (many motels and RV parks) with a number of tourist lodges and bed and breakfast in the Eureka, Trego and Yaak River areas. As the present tourist strategy evolves there will be a definite need for the construction of a number of three and four star hotels and lodges to cater to the expected new European and golfing markets (EDC). The Lincoln County Economic Development Council is currently actively seeking tourism sector investors interested in investigating this market.

There are 3 chambers of commerce in Lincoln County. The Tobacco Valley Board of Commerce is located in Eureka. The Libby Area Chamber located in Libby and the Troy Chamber located in Troy.

## Community Background and Concerns

### Education

The Libby Public School District operates three elementary schools, one middle school and one high school. The 1999 Libby Public School enrollment was 1,940 students (EDC, 2000). In 1999, there were 2 parochial schools in Libby that enrolled approximately 63 children (EDC, 2000). There is also one private and one public preschool/daycare located in Libby (EDC, 2000).

Advanced educational services are delivered through the Lincoln County Campus of Flathead Valley Community College located in downtown Libby. Associates degrees in business, science and human services are available. The campus also serves as an outreach site for Great Falls University. Bachelor level and advanced degrees are available for professionals (EDC, 2000). According to the Lincoln County Economic Development Council, approximately 16.7 percent of Lincoln County residents over the age of 25 have Associates degrees or better.

The Lincoln County Campus of Flathead Valley Community College serves a Full-Time-Equivalent population of 100 students and has a total enrollment of 280 students. LCC also provides adult education, professional continuing education and community education services. The main campus of Flathead Valley Community College is located in Kalispell, Montana (EDC, 2000).

The largest four-year state college is the University of Montana located in Missoula, 200 miles south of Libby. Other educational services include the Libby Job Service's Job Training Partnership Act to provide vocational training for dislocated workers (EDC, 2000).

There are 3 public libraries in Lincoln County. The Lincoln County Public Library is located at 220 West 6th Street in Libby. There are also public libraries in Eureka and Troy. The Eureka Branch Library is located at 318 Dewey Avenue and the Troy Branch Library is located at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Kalispell.

### Religious Institutions

The Libby Troy area has many religious institutions serving area residents.

Libby Church of Christ 2129 South Highway 2 293-7173	Church of Jesus Christ-LDS 2056 Highway 2 South 293-4757	St. Luke's Episcopal Church 109 West Poplar 293-5221
Libby Church of God 1007 Utah Ave. 293-6916	St. John's Lutheran Church 1017 Montana Ave. 293-4024	Anchor Baptist Church Venture Motor Inn 293-8193
Libby Seventh Day Adventist 88 Airfield Road 1 mile north on Highway 37 293-4829	St. Joseph's Catholic Church 719 Utah Ave. 293-4322	Christ Lutheran Church 200 West Larch St. 293-3705

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Christian Church  
402 E. 3<sup>rd</sup>.  
293-3747

Church of Christ  
Highway 37  
293-6932

Church of the Nazarene  
662 East Horseshoe Dr.  
293-4397 / 293-3166

Faith Bible Church  
239 Education Way  
293-7441

First Presbyterian Church  
101 Mahoney Rd.  
293-7573 / 293-6044

Libby Baptist Church  
105 E. Cedar St.  
293-6556

First Baptist Church  
Farm to Market Rd  
40 Granny Garden Rd.  
293-3632

First United Methodist  
Church  
713 Main Ave.  
293-4522

Libby Assembly of God  
1108 Utah Ave.  
293-8331

### Recreation

Lincoln County is a major recreation area. Year round activities include:

Summer - camping, blue ribbon fishing, hiking, biking , rock climbing, berry picking, rafting, swimming, boating, four wheeling.

Winter - alpine and X-Country skiing, snowmobiling, snow shoeing, ice fishing, sleigh riding.

Libby Dam and Lake Koocanusa recreational areas are 20 minutes from Libby on Highway 37 North. Lake Koocanusa is a man made lake 90 miles long extending across the border into Canada. One can enjoy the scenery from the top of the dam. The visitor center has picnic tables and modern facilities.

For those wishing to spend a few days on the lake, numerous campgrounds with picnicking, swimming camping and recreation vehicle facilities surround the lake. A private marina with cabin rentals, restaurant and lounge is also available. Several boat launching facilities enable boaters and fishermen to enjoy the water.

Wildlife viewing along Highway 37 from Libby is popular. The Highway offers a 100 mile-long bicycle tour with many scenic turnouts.

A country club and ski resort also serve the Libby and Troy area.

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## Community Background and Concerns

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### Community Organizations

There are many active community organization located in or near Libby. These organizations include:

- American Diabetes Association;
- American Cancer Society;
- American Legion;
- American Red Cross;
- Arthritis Foundation;
- Boy Scouts;
- Community Advisory Group;
- Elks;
- Eureka Area Chamber of Commerce;
- Girl Scouts;
- Habitat for Humanity;
- Kiwanis;
- Kootenai Volunteers in Support of Hospice;
- Libby Area Chamber of Commerce;
- Lincoln County Asbestos Victims Relief Organization;
- Lincoln County Council on Ageing;
- Lincoln County Crimestoppers;
- Lincoln County Economic Development Council;
- Lincoln County Family Planning;
- Lincoln County Foster Parents Association;
- Lincoln County Help Line;
- Lions;
- Literacy Volunteers of America;
- Masons;
- Pregnancy Care Center;
- Recovery Northwest;
- Rotary Club;
- Shriners;
- Sunburst Community Service Foundation;

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# Community Background and Concerns

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- Troy Businessmen's Association;
- VFW #1548; and
- Women's Club
- The Women's Foundation of Montana.

Contacts for each organization are listed at the end of the organization's description.

### American Diabetes Association

The American Diabetes Association, Montana Affiliate is part of a nation-wide non-profit voluntary health organization serving diabetics and their families through research, education and community services. The Libby Diabetic support group is one of 12 in the state that offers local guidance to people with diabetes. For more information call 1-800-232-6668.

### American Cancer Society

Through the American Cancer Society service program, endeavors to serve as many patients as possible. The program has two cash grants available for the medically indigent cancer patient: one for transportation and one for prescription drugs. For more information call 293-6228.

### American Legion

The Libby chapter of the American Legion is one of two Legions in Lincoln County and has a membership of approximately 250 people. The group sponsors civic educational activities for Libby youth and engages in many civic services and activities including the Honor Guard for funerals, the White Cross Program for highway fatalities, and transportation of approximately 700 veterans per year to a Spokane, Washington, medical center. Meetings are at the American Legion every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday. Don Auger - 293-3822 or 293-6836.

### American Red Cross

The mission of the Northwest Chapter is to provide relief to victims of disasters and help people prevent, prepare for and respond to emergencies. Over 850 Lincoln County citizens used the services in 1999. Services include CPR/First Aid courses, Armed Forces Emergency Services, blood donations and single family disasters. Five people from Lincoln County currently serve on the Board of Directors. For more information call 752-6433.

### Arthritis Foundation

The Arthritis Foundation was formed over 36 years ago to solve the many problems faced by both arthritis sufferers and the professionals who help them. It supports better medical care and services for the people who have arthritis. It seeks causes and the cure or prevention of the various diseases.

### Boy Scouts

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## Community Background and Concerns

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The various Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts and Tiger Scouts units in the Libby, Troy, Eureka areas participate in a variety of activities, including Scout-o-rama, pine wood derby, campouts and a yearly campout exchange with the Canadians. Boy Scouts aims to help boys become citizens of fine character. Frank Votopka - 293-6211.

### Community Advisory Group

The Community Advisory Group (CAG) serves as a public forum for representatives of diverse community interests to present and discuss their needs and concerns related to the Libby asbestos investigation and cleanup. The CAG is designed as a mechanism for all affected and interested parties in a community to actively participate in EPA's decision-making process. Summaries of the meetings are posted on the EPA web page at: <http://www.epa.gov/region8/superfund/libby/> and on the City of Libby web page at: <http://www.libbymontana.com/public.html>. Meetings are on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Facilitator - Gerald Mueller- 543-0026.

### Elks

The Libby Elks Club has a membership of approximately 200. The Club is a community service organization. The principal focus is on providing educational scholarships for graduating high school seniors. Other civic activities include sponsoring youth activities, fundraising and activities to benefit veterans living in veterans' homes. Meetings are on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Elks Lodge. Dr. Don Cox - 293-8736.

### Eureka Area Chamber of Commerce

The Eureka Area Chamber of Commerce is dedicated to preserving and enhancing the economic viability of Eureka and the surrounding area. The Chamber spends time educating members to the benefits of shopping locally and supporting local businesses. The town is in the process of printing its own money, "Eureka Bucks," that has the same value as the dollar, but can only be used locally. The Chamber meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month at 7:00 a.m. at Café Jacks. Jay Yost, President 296-2223

### Girl Scouts

Girl Scouting provides fun, education and opportunity for every girl. this is a value based program, emphasizing honesty, fairness and responsibility through a wide range of activities in the our-of-doors, the arts, science and the home. Each troop contributes to the community with service projects. Girl Scouting is for girls in kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> Grade. For more information call 293-5479.

### Habitat for Humanity

The Libby affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International is dedicated to building simple, affordable housing for people who would not be able to have their own home. Once the home is built the new owners pay Habitat for the home with an interest free loan. Community

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volunteers participate in fund raising activities. During the summer, many volunteers from churches and other organizations, as well as from outside the area, help to build the homes. The Libby affiliate built four homes in the Libby-Troy area, and plans to build one home every other year. A 15 person Board of Directors handles most business. The Board of Directors meets once a month on the first Monday and alternates between the Lutheran Church in Libby and the Methodist Church in Troy. Jim Shadle - 293-6616

### **Kiwanis**

The Kiwanis Club is a community social services organization which focuses on children. The club participates in activities from parenting support for new mothers to clothes drives for community members in need. The group is involved in educational activities including sports events, support to local schools and sponsorship of high school students in various community organizations to help instill the will to help others. There are 15-16 members in the Club. It meets on Tuesdays at 12:00 in the Venture Inn. President - Donna Hall 7634.

### **Kootenai Volunteers in Support of Hospice**

Kootenai Volunteers in Support of Hospice provides sick room supplies such as wheelchairs, bath aides, and beds to the ill community at large. Funds from donations are used to purchase supplies. For more information call 293-0180.

### **Libby Area Chamber of Commerce**

The Libby Area chamber of Commerce is an organization of Businesses and individuals whose mission is to enthusiastically promote economic and community development through a positive attitude which fosters, growth, and an improved business climate for the greater Libby area. Chamber Luncheons are the second Wednesday of every month (restaurant rotates each month) - although this may change in 2001 - check with President, Tim Steele, in February. For more information call 293-4167.

### **Lincoln County Asbestos Victims Relief Organization**

The LCAVRO was initially formed for the purpose of disseminating information and possibly finding medical assistance for people who were diagnosed but couldn't afford immediate expenses for health care such as travel and emergency medication. The focus has since changed a little since more information became available, medical screening began and the W.R. Grace medical program came into existence. The organization can be an advocate for any victim who wishes to be represented. Membership is limited to officers and board of director members. In the future, as the situation changes, the group has discussed the possibility of becoming a full time information center to replace the EPA Information Center. Gayla Benefield - 293-5535.

### **Lincoln County Council on Ageing**

Lincoln County Council on Ageing is an umbrella agency for Senior Centers in Libby, Troy and Eureka. The Council is a coordinating body to ensure that information that is relevant to

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senior citizens is distributed to all three centers in Lincoln County. The Council also serves as an advocate for interests that are of importance to seniors in the area. The Council meets quarterly rotating between the three centers. Meetings are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Mondays of March, June and December and on the second Monday of September. Wilbur Wilson - 293-3889

### **Lincoln County Crimestoppers**

Crimestoppers officially organized on the local level in 1981 for the purpose of providing rewards not normally available to those people who wish to remain anonymous in giving information that would lead to the arrest and arraignment of those persons responsible for any serious crime or big game violation. Crimestoppers offers up to \$1,000 reward for such information. Call 293-STOP.

### **Lincoln County Economic Development Council**

The Lincoln County EDC was created in 1987 to create jobs, diversify the economy of Lincoln County and economically better the lives of the county's residents. The Lincoln County Economic Development Council strives to create an awareness of economic concerns and strategies by conducting community assessments, surveys, meetings, and projects. The EDC was recently awarded the contract to administer the operations of the Libby Area Development Company, the entity established to make recommendations for the \$8.5 senate allocation recently awarded to the City of Libby. The EDC is a non-profit corporation with an office located at 905 W. 9<sup>th</sup> - U.S Highway 2. Monthly meetings take place in Libby. Bob Tunis - 293-8406.

### **Lincoln County Family Planning**

Family Planning is a preventative health effort which offers families in Lincoln needed medical, educational, and counseling services on a sliding fee scale. Primary goals of the clinic include the prevention of teen pregnancy, the prevention of breast and cervical cancer, and the prevention of treatment of potentially life threatening conditions associated with reproductive health. The office is located at 421 Montana Ave. in Libby, with a satellite clinic in Eureka. For more information call 293-6291.

### **Lincoln County Foster Parents Association**

The Department of Family services places many children in temporary "safe" homes for various reasons. Foster parents use every possible resource to provide the best environment while these children are in their care. Money donated is used to maintain an emergency clothing fund, provide for needs of the children, hold training workshops for foster parents and to establish a scholarship fund for foster children. For more information call 293-3519.

### **Lincoln County Help Line**

The Lincoln County Help Line contributes to the general welfare of the residents of Lincoln County by dealing with the problems associated with sexual assault and domestic violence.

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The Help Line provides immediate, empathetic assistance and safe shelter to people in crisis situations. They offer a 24 hour crisis line and make referrals to community agencies and services for assistance with individual's emotional, physical, social and legal needs. Trained volunteers staff the crisis line. For more information call 293-3223.

### **Lions**

The Libby Lions Club has a membership of approximately 20 people. The principal activity of the Club is assistance and care for the sight impaired. Another activity which the Club sponsors is a banquet for high achievers at the Libby High school. Meetings are on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Venture Inn. Bob Hensler - 293-4838.

### **Literacy Volunteers of America**

Literacy Volunteers of America promotes increased adult literacy in Lincoln County through volunteer teaching of, and aid to the illiterate and semi-literate. All workers are volunteers. There is no cost to the learner. For more information call 293-2534.

### **Masons**

The Masons has a membership of approximately 100. The Blue Lodge supports food drives such as getting food to needy families around Thanksgiving. They also engage in other fund-raising activities. The Scottish Right focuses on children with language disorders. Members sponsor children, helping them to get care at the appropriate facilities. Meetings are on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 8:00 p.m. at 1218 Utah Ave. H.E. (Gene) Thompson - 293-4769

### **Pregnancy Care Center**

The Pregnancy Care Center is a locally organized and funded ministry dedicated to providing care and practical help to girls and women during pregnancy. The Center offers pregnancy testing, information and guidance in related areas. Clothing and furniture are also available. All services provided are free of charge. The office is located at 113 West 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. Counselors are available 24 hours a day. For more information call 293-9435

### **Recovery Northwest**

Recovery Northwest has been helping people in Lincoln County with drug and alcohol problems for 23 years, with a wide range of programs such as Prevention / Intervention, Education, Assessments, Evaluations for adolescents and adults. Minor in Possession and ACT / DUI classes are also provided. We assess each individual's needs and advise placement for outpatient, intensive outpatient, or inpatient services. The treatment philosophy involves 6 areas in the recovery growth process. They are emotional, spiritual, social, physical, mental and volitional. Family participation is encouraged even if the chemical dependent members choose not to enter treatment. Each person is involved in

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## Community Background and Concerns

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individual, group, and family therapy for short or long term. Other services provided are educational seminars, and public speaking for prevention. For more information call 293-7731.

### **Rotary Club**

The Rotary is a community service organization. It's focus is on youth but it also concerns itself with other community needs and activities such as the Food Bank. The group fosters an environment of service and holds to high ethical standards in business. It engages in activities to promote international understanding and good will. For example, its efforts in the campaign to exterminate polio are noteworthy. Mick Shea - 293-7751.

### **Shriners**

The Shriners have a membership of about 60. Shriners main focus is on mobility impaired children and children with severe burns or after effects of burns. They sponsor children, helping to transport them to Shriners hospitals for care. Meetings are on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the MK Steakhouse. Jim Ramirez - 293-8888.

### **Sunburst Community Service Foundation**

A community based, non-profit organization, Sunburst Community Service Foundation's mission is to promote cultural, educational and family services in North Lincoln County. Services provided by Sunburst include Shakespeare in the Paark, Arts Eureka, Tobacco Valley Families in Partnership, adult educational classes, mentorship, the performing art series and Rails and Trails. For more information call 296-3435.

### **VFW #1548**

The VFW #1548 is a non-profit service organization dedicated to serving veterans of Lincoln County. Activities include helping veterans and their families to secure financial benefits such as pensions and Veterans Administration benefits for disability. Veterans can receive medical assistance from the V.A. hospital or through the mobile clinic from Spokane in the clinic rooms of the VFW community hall. The organization provides services to the larger community as well as to veterans. The community hall provides a conference facility to area groups at no charge. The hall has been used as a polling place, by the Red Cross for blood bank activities, and by church groups. Meetings are on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of each month at 8:00 in the VFW Community Hall. Hal Cole - 293-7316

### **Women's Club**

The Women's Club became active service organization in Libby in 1925. It was the lead organization in starting the first Libby library and the first public swimming pool in Libby. The Club primary focus is on sponsoring youth through scholarships, support for sports activities and promoting educational experiences. The Club also supports veterans through various activities. One of the biggest projects is Operation Smile, through which the club collects money to help children with congenital birth defects. Membership is about 30

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# Community Background and Concerns

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people. The group meets once a month from September through May on the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the Venture Inn. Ruth Baenan- 293-4362.

### Women's Foundation of Montana

The mission of the Women's Foundation of Montana is to improve the economic status of women and girls and create a brighter future for girls and women in Montana. The Women's Foundation of Montana awarded a grant to the Lincoln County Help Line in support of that organization's activities in October 2000. Caroline Stamy 293-8754

## 3.2 Community Concerns, Comments, and Issues

To develop a CIP that accurately reflects community interests and concerns, EPA depends heavily upon information obtained during "Community Interviews." From December 1999 through April 2000, EPA conducted interviews with a wide spectrum of area residents and representatives, such as community leaders, elected officials, business representatives, and community service workers. The interview questions are contained in Appendix F. The responses from these interviews are grouped according to similar themes. EPA has made every effort to include all the responses from the interviews as well as information from residents that has been shared subsequent to the interviews.

It is important to emphasize that this section presents the opinions and concerns of residents and other interviewees rather than those of EPA, the state, or any PRPs. The information obtained in the interviews and subsequent conversations is summarized in this section. It reflects interviewees' responses and residents' concerns regardless of whether those responses or perceptions are factually precise.

The following general areas of concerns, comments, and issues have been identified from the community interviews and other sources:

- Health Risks;
- Health Care;
- Exposure Pathways / Contamination Source
- Perception of Current Risk;
- Sampling and Risk Assessment;
- Cleanup;
- Stigma;
- Environmental Justice;
- EPA's Outreach and Education Role;
- Communication; and
- Miscellaneous.

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## Community Background and Concerns

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### Health Risks

The main concerns identified are health related. Many people are concerned about their health, their family friends and neighbors health. A concern that was expressed repeatedly was worry about kids today in Libby and making sure that they don't get exposed to asbestos.

People want to know how family members, friends and acquaintances contracted cancer. Some people are concerned because the previous owners of their home had cancer and they wonder whether it was from the air in the home. There is concern about cancer levels in certain neighborhoods.

Issues related to taking care of dying friends and family are often expressed. There are many emotional, psychological, stress and grief issues. There is difficulty in understanding how two or more people could have worked together in the same places at the mine, but only some have asbestos-related illness and others don't.

Questions related to how to live with a diagnosis of an asbestos related disease are common. Some people expressed fear of being diagnosed even when they feel they may have an asbestos-related illness. There is concern about the latency period of asbestos-related illnesses. People are scared because they know that even if they don't have an asbestos-related disease now, they could get one in the future. The fact that there is no cure makes it especially scary.

With regard to other diseases, some feel that rates of multiple sclerosis and lupus seem to be high in the population and could be related to asbestos exposure. People have expressed scepticism about diagnoses of asthma or emphysema, thinking that it is really asbestosis. One person wanted to know whether there was a relationship between arthritis and asbestos exposure.

People want to get more information on how they can protect themselves in the short term. They are wondering how the contamination is transmitted, whether it is air-borne, and if it is safe to eat garden vegetables.

One resident said that the medical monitoring was a good program even though the time frame was short for getting the testing done. EPA should do it again in the future - especially for children.

People identified the following things that they wanted more information about.

- Information on potential health risks
- Effects of asbestos exposure
- Cancer in Libby (would like to see a cancer cluster study done)
- Asbestos' effects on the immune system
- Discussion- in lay terms- of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and pleural plaqueing
- Smoking and asbestos exposure

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- Arthritis and asbestos exposure
- Actions that can be taken to protect your health in the short term
- How the contamination is transmitted
- Information on garden vegetables grown in soil with vermiculite
- General air quality in Libby

## Health Care

Some people feel that medical problems have been covered up and people were deceived about how dangerous it was to work in the mine. In the past, they couldn't make their own choices about doctors. WR Grace required individuals to go to Dr. Whitehouse for diagnosis. Reports from the company to employees did not accurately reflect x-ray results.

One resident said that the medical monitoring was a good program even though the time frame was short for getting the testing done. EPA and ATSDR should do it again in the future - especially for children.

People who are ill are angry and scared about how to pay the medical bills. There is a lot of concern over ability to afford necessary medical care.

A problem that some people have run into is disability insurance not paying if a person is only working 3/4 time. It was thought that W.R. Grace should compensate them for the difference if they could only work 3/4 time.

Attorney costs was another financial problem when it came to looking for help in getting Grace to pay anything for medical costs.

People identified the following things that they wanted more information about.

- Exactly what diseases asbestosis causes
- What to do if they have an asbestos-related disease
- How and where people can get tested for asbestos-related disease
- How asbestos-related disease can be distinguished from other sources of lung disease

## Exposure Pathways / Contamination Source

Possible exposure pathways was a concern that was mentioned often by those interviewed. People are particularly concerned about whether to remove vermiculite from their homes or keep it in place. They feel that there could be negative effects from living in house with vermiculite if it contains asbestos but many of them don't have the financial resources to have it removed.

Places where people feel they could potentially be exposed or have been exposed to asbestos in the past are included in the following list.

### The mine

- mining
- driving dump trucks to and from mine

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- dirty buses that went back and forth to transport workers to and from the mine
- field trips with school to the mine
- taking kids to mine in the 1980s
- hiking near the mine
- riding motorcycles up at the mine area.
- horseback riding near the mine
- hunting near the mine
- cutting Christmas trees near the mine
- getting scrap steel at mine.
- sledding up at the mine
- tours of the mine
- gathering wood near the mine
- picking mushrooms near the mine

### The road

- uncovered mining trucks driving down Rainy Creek Road
- drivers having followed Zonolite trucks on highway with dust flying everywhere
- logging truck traffic

### The former vermiculite processing/loading areas

- areas adjacent to the conveyor belt
- church at the river where the RainTree Nursery is now located
- Easter Sunrise service every year at Rainy Creek
- picnics at Orchard by loading dock by Rainy Creek
- the old railroad loading areas
- playing at ballfields near the old export Plant
- playing in vermiculite piles near the ballfields
- playing in plant by City Hall
- playing in piles of Zonolite at East 7th and Lincoln Blvd (Old Zonolite Headquarters)

### The water

- Zonolite in the Kootenai river and in Rainy Creek
- playing in Flower Creek
- playing in Libby Creek
- working at the Stud Mill by Libby Creek
- floating the river to the Screening Plant
- river fishing

### At home

- garage reconstruction
- remodeling the house
- attic activities
- squirrels in attic stirring up vermiculite
- working on home wiring
- sweeping the house
- washing husband's clothes
- cleaning out Grandpa's pants cuffs so Grandma would let him in the house

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- in gardens

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### Around Libby

- blowing dust that may contain asbestos fibers
- hauling bags to the landfill
- Flathead Community College plastered with vermiculite and plaster mix

When EPA asked about how people used or came into contact with vermiculite, people told us that the predominant use for vermiculite was as insulation material. Many people also used it as a garden amenity. Many less common uses for vermiculite were identified and recorded as follows:

### In school

- made cookies at school in Home Economics class with it;
- used it as a science project;
- tried to put it in plaster in old junior high/now college building;
- Libby Community College was plastered with Zonolite when he went High School
- took it to school and pop it;
- plastic bags of vermiculite for boy scout jamboree;
- used for track at High School

### At home

- kids brought pieces home, found it in yard and would heat it and pop it;
- popped it at home with cousins;
- people brought it home as gimmick to show people.
- was used to store vegetables, bulbs, etc. over the winter;
- as a mosquito repellant, Zonolite was mixed with sawdust and some pesticide. It was dyed green and felt oily;
- turf builder;
- people played in it

### In construction

- mixed it into concrete in the garage;
- used in well house insulation;
- paved driveway with rock from gravel pit;
- masons and brick layers used zonolite as filler between bricks;
- used in chimneys in Libby;
- shipped to z-crete to licensee plants
- light weight roofing

### Experimentally

- experimenting with feeding it to hogs.
- put it in vitamins.
- used it as diet food.

### Commercially

- Zonolite made sheet rock, fiberglass;

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- dry kilns - large sheds that were used to dry lumber
- fill for Purina animal food

People identified the following things that they wanted more information about.

- The asbestos content of vermiculite: at the mine, after popping/processing, as a finished product for sale?

### Perception of Current Risk

EPA wanted to hear from residents whether there were areas in and around Libby that they believe still present a risk from asbestos to residents. Residents and other interested parties have a variety of ideas about current potential sources of contamination. They identified the following places as potentially contaminated and requested that many of them be sampled.

#### Areas associated with the mine

- mine itself, from wind, erosion
- anywhere near the mine
- greenhouse at Rainy Creek
- ball fields by river
- old mill expanding plant at E. 5<sup>th</sup> / Lincoln Blvd and Michigan Ave. area
- Tub Gulch - that kids for decades have used as a party spot
- chutes in old mill
- washouts are uncovering soil, pond, etc. near the mine

#### Large general areas

- south end of town
- west end of Libby
- homes in the Libby area
- homes near the River
- Sheep Range at the end of Kootenai River Road
- along the River and Rainy Creek, Deltas of incoming creeks
- whole general area of Libby
- homes that used vermiculite in gardens
- Carney Creek area
- piles on end of 5th Street where old W.R. Grace HQ was located
- wind still brings dust into town from
- any housing development built on or near the mine site
- Em Kayan village

#### Specific areas

- Airfield Park
- J. Neils Park
- area by Senior Center between hospital and RR tracks
- Central School insulation
- track at high school
- skating rinks at local schools

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- 2<sup>nd</sup> street where they used to park mine trucks overnight before they got the space near the old ballfields
- industrial park
- by hospital
- riprap brought down from mine for Flower Creek after flooding
- other ballfields - Legion and the Kelly/Walleston fields
- River's Edge Traylor Park
- sheds in back of City Hall

People identified the following things that they wanted more information about.

- How to get vermiculite insulation removed from their homes

## Sampling and Risk Assessment

There were some concerns associated with the sampling process.

Some people had concerns about the way insulation material was sampled and the representativeness of the samples. Someone thought that samples were taken from the top layer, but what is filtering down into the house is from the bottom layer.

Some residents reported having independent testing done that showed higher levels of tremolite than EPA results showed. They were concerned at having two different values for results.

Many people are frustrated with the amount of time that it is taking to get results for the samples that were taken from their homes. Many people still want to have their homes sampled.

EPA asked people if they wanted to be involved in the EPA risk assessment and there were several ways in which people wanted to be involved.

Many people said they would help in any way they could. They offered to answer whatever questions they could in an effort to help EPA assess the risk in the Libby area. Many people said they would just like to continue to come to meetings. Some said they would attend Community Advisory Group meetings. People would like to continue to receive information in the mail. Some said they would volunteer some time while others were too busy to volunteer but wanted to stay informed through the papers or mailings or meetings.

People identified the following things that they wanted more information about.

- Results of sampling
- Current findings
- Asbestos content of finished vermiculite product
- How to get their homes tested for asbestos.
- How the air in Libby compares to other areas in the region

## Cleanup

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## Community Background and Concerns

This section describes the community concerns and issues associated with the cleanup activities.

Many people are concerned about getting vermiculite removed from their homes. Some people have expressed concern and confusion about what to do with vermiculite since EPA has asked homeowners not to handle it. Some have vermiculite dust sifting out of areas which are not well-sealed. Others have begun renovation projects and have vermiculite exposed in the living areas.

There has been some concern that the cleanups at the former export and screening plants are causing asbestos fibers to be released into the air and exposing Libby residents to harmful levels of asbestos.

Some people wanted to ensure that soil would be covered during transport. Traffic in general as a result of a large scale soil cleanup was a concern. People are especially concerned about Rainy Creek road.

Some people feel that the Glory Hole should be investigated for cleanup.

Some people have expressed concerns about being responsible for cleanup costs if they were the ones that put vermiculite in a given location.s

People identified the following things that they wanted more information about.

- How a homeowner can make a building safe if there is a risk of exposure.
- Cleaning up the ambient air in Libby

### Stigma

This section describes the community concerns associated with the “stigma” on the community because of the publicity about asbestos.

There are economic concerns about decreasing property values. People in Libby are concerned that the publicity about contamination affects their property values. Some people have reported being denied loans to buy a home because of vermiculite in the home.

There is concern about the stigma brought to the town because of the bad press Libby has received. People want the EPA to help remove stigma on the community once the cleanup is complete. The Agency could work with the press to help get the stigma off the community.

People identified the following things that they wanted more information about.

- How to get a letter that says there is no risk from asbestos for a potential home buyer
- What the contamination issue has done to real estate values

### Environmental Justice

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## 3.0

# Community Background and Concerns

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Although environmental justice was not a concern expressed in any of the community interviews, there may be some issues associated with environmental justice. Many discussions with community members as the project has developed have focused on the issue of a large number of Libby residents living on a low income and not being able to afford services that could reduce or eliminate exposure to vermiculite in their homes. Vermiculite from Libby which contains tremolite asbestos has been shown to cause a variety of asbestos-related illnesses. There is concern on the part of many community members that just having vermiculite in their homes can potentially cause asbestos-related illnesses.

People identified the following things that they wanted more information about.

- Environmental Justice Small Grants

## Communication

Many ways of getting information were identified by those who were interviewed. Two ways of getting the information that they already had about the site stood out. Most people had gotten information:

- Directly from EPA either in the newspaper, on the radio, on the internet, at meetings, through direct mailings, or at the Information Center; or
- By talking to people in the community either neighbors or community leaders;

People identified the following methods as the best ways of communicating with them.

- The Montanian & Western News (14)
- cable TV - Channel 10 (14)
- direct Mailings (13)
- radio - Swap shop and Voices of the Kootenai(11)
- word of mouth (7)
- meetings (5)
- TV News (5)
- EPA Information Center (3)
- flyers @ Drs office (2)
- grocery store bags (2)
- around town on reader boards (2)
- flyers through USPS
- web sites (2)
- e-mail (1)
- without media (1)
- call in phone number(1)

People gave many suggestions for the best media to use to get the communication out. Newspapers were almost unanimously agreed upon as good ways to get information to people in Libby. Many people also mentioned the cable TV channel for announcements of events and activities. TV News was not as popular but was also mentioned several times.

## Community Background and Concerns

Direct mail and fact sheets and flyers were mentioned by many residents as being very effective in getting information to them. The local Radio station was also mentioned as one of the best ways.

Word of mouth was thought to be effective in Libby.

For the most part people believe that meetings, both EPA and community meetings, are a good way to update residents.

Schools were suggested as good places to get information out to community members about the sampling and cleanup.

The EPA Information Center at 501 Mineral Ave. was mentioned as effective at providing a place for residents to find someone to answer questions for them or refer them to the correct person to talk to. Many people also appreciated the written information that was available to them at the Center.

It was recommended that EPA use all these organizations and methods.

### Meetings

The majority of people who EPA interviewed believed that meetings they had attended were helpful. People felt that meetings in the community provide useful information and updates about the sampling and cleanup. Meetings provide useful opportunities to ask questions and hear new information. Meetings are a way to have people be accountable because they have to answer questions that community members pose.

A couple of people said they were too busy to attend the meetings or that they didn't know about them. One person commented that it was difficult to get to the meetings because they were always in the evening.

People provided EPA with many suggestions on community locations where meetings could be held. Some of the suggestions for meeting places were.

- Memorial Gym-41
- City Hall - 23
- VFW 13
  
- Venture Inn Conf. Rooms 3
- Wilkinson Building 1
- National Guard Armory-2
- Lumber Mill - 1
- Schools-2
- High School Gym5
- School Gym (ASA Wood)-1
- Sports Rehab Building
- Restaurants -1
- Churches-2
- Masons (across from Hidden Chapel)

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### 3.0

## Community Background and Concerns

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- USFS Conference

The numbers after the meeting place indicate the number of times that meeting place was mentioned.

### Miscellaneous

EPA asked if there were other concerns or issues people had about the mine or vermiculite, and the following responses were recorded. EPA realizes that there be many more concerns than are listed in this plan and encourages residents and interested parties to call EPA with any concerns or information that they believe the Agency should know.

Many people feel that the problems have been covered up and people couldn't make their own choices about whether to work at the mine, knowing that it was a hazardous occupation.

Some think that there are people in the community who are in denial about the problems of asbestos.

Many parents didn't even know where the mine was located until last hunting season.

A lot of people are diagnosed in Libby with asbestos-related illnesses.

Too bad the EPA didn't shut the mine down years ago.

Glory Hole has a lot of bad stuff buried in it including dumped oil drums. There is concern about digging there.

Fish brought home from the Lower pond located below tailings smelled heavily like diesel/gas. Only kids under 12 could fish there. State Fish and Game found diesel in the fish when they analyzed it.

People got a good pay check working at the mine and they knew it was dangerous.

"The reclamation process at mine was to done to satisfaction and should be looked at. It's a tremendous scar on the landscape."

In the 1980s-1990s: EPA made recommendations regarding what measures would need to be taken to keep Rainy Creek road open. The County did not have resources to have a water truck make daily runs so it decided only to post a no trespassing sign. Current owners, Owens- Hurst, are not abiding by EPA recommendations made in an EIS and there should be follow-up. There is still a lot of activity on Rainy Creek Road - logging, hunting, partying, sampling, sightseeing, and wildlife watching.

## Community Involvement Plan Objectives and Strategies

Based upon interviews with local community members and other interested parties as well as considering other relevant information, EPA has developed the following list of objectives for community involvement and communication for the Libby Site:

- Use Proactive Approach;
  - ▶ Providing community members with useful information about the Superfund process
  - ▶ Providing timely, site-specific information to community members
  - ▶ Providing opportunities for community input
- Define and Communicate Roles;
- Formally Involve Local Officials and Other Community Representatives; and
- Comply with CERCLA/SARA Requirements.

A discussion of each of these objectives and the strategies EPA will use to implement the objectives follows.

### 4.1 Proactive Approach

EPA's objective is to use a proactive approach to sharing information with the public. The Agency will try to provide information to as many people as possible, listen to their concerns, and answer their questions. To achieve this objective, EPA will ensure that public health and safety issues as well as opportunities for public participation in site decisions are well publicized. EPA will provide information on the Superfund process that is relevant to decisions at the site. EPA will assure that easy-to-read information regarding the status of site activities is provided to the community. The information will enable the community to keep up-to-date and be well-informed about site activities.

EPA will use various techniques, some suggested by the community, to provide site information to the public. One of the most effective ways to share information with area residents that was requested by community members, is providing weekly updates for the newspapers and radio. EPA will continue to produce fact sheets and flyers when appropriate and use direct mail, and local distribution routes to get information to residents and other interested parties. EPA's local Information Center has been extensively used by the community as a meeting place, a place to pick up information, and a place to ask questions and voice concerns. EPA will hold public meetings and periodically attend established community organization meeting. EPA will maintain a web page on the site to update people on activities, decisions, and issues regarding the site.

### 4.2 Define and Communicate Roles

EPA's objective is to clearly define and communicate plans, schedules, responsibilities, costs, and relationship with other agencies. Citizens have raised a number of questions about the roles of various groups involved in Site activities. There are a number of directly affected parties and other interested parties involved in different Site activities and it is important that EPA clearly explain the role and authority of each and how their activities are

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## 4.0

# Community Involvement Plan Objectives and Strategies

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coordinated, especially concerning MDEQ, which is EPA's primary governmental agency partner. EPA also works closely with the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) at this site.

EPA established a Community Advisory Group (CAG) in January 2000 to provide a forum for two-way communication on issues related to the investigation and cleanup of asbestos in Libby and the Community Medical Testing. This forum is also an opportunity for all parties to clarify roles of the various interested groups and individuals. The CAG will be comprised of private citizens and federal State, and local agencies. Agency members and their anticipated roles and responsibilities are as follows:

- **EPA** - The federal agency responsible for implementing and enforcing environmental laws and regulations aimed at protecting public health and the environment. EPA will be the lead agency responsible for the sampling and cleanup activities related to asbestos contamination in Libby.
- **Montana Department of Environmental Quality** - The Department of the State of Montana responsible for ensuring protection of the environment. MDEQ will provide input to EPA on sampling and cleanup activities for the areas of Libby that are affected by asbestos contamination.
- **Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services** - The Department of the State of Montana charged with improving and protecting the health, well-being and self-reliance of all Montanans. Program objectives are met through collaboration and coordination with many partners across the state of Montana, including public and private health care providers, voluntary health organizations, consumer groups and other organizations involved in prevention and health promotion efforts. MDPHHS maintains a Lincoln County office located in Libby at 117 Commerce Way.
- **U.S. Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry** - The federal agency responsible for assessing public health threats related to hazardous waste sites and for responding to public health concerns expressed at those sites. ATSDR will provide input to EPA on sampling and cleanup activities for the areas of Libby affected by asbestos contamination. They are the lead agency for the Libby Community Environmental Health Project which will screen thousands of individuals for indications of asbestos-related disease.
- **Lincoln County Department of Environmental Health** - The Lincoln County Department of Environmental Health (DEH) is responsible for addressing county local public health issues. The County will be responsible for determining the scope of homes affected by vermiculite insulation. The Lincoln County DEH will provide input to EPA on sampling and cleanup activities for the areas of Libby that are affected by asbestos contamination. The County plays a major role in decisions about potential construction of an asbestos cell in the local Landfill.

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## Community Involvement Plan Objectives and Strategies

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### 4.3 Formally Involve Local Officials and Other Community Representatives

EPA's objective is to formally involve local officials and other community representatives in the Superfund process and maintain ongoing, two-way communication with the community. Community leaders and representatives of local organizations have expressed an interest in EPA communicating regularly with them, informing them in advance of major decisions or events, and formally inviting them to public meetings and other public activities. To accomplish this objective, EPA will make an effort to formalize communication of EPA site activities. EPA will continue to offer the community opportunities to participate actively in Community Advisory Group meetings.

### 4.4 Comply with CERCLA/SARA Requirements

EPA's objective is to comply with the CERCLA/SARA requirements. In addition to the above activities, others will be planned specifically to meet the community relations requirements under CERCLA/SARA. A detailed description of these activities is found in the Section 5.0 of this CIP.

This section describe the community involvement activities the EPA plans to conduct during the course of the removal action. These activities are designed to provide information to community members and provide opportunities for them to be involved in the decision making process. The EPA is currently the lead government agency in the remediation of the Libby Site. As such, EPA will ensure full public participation in the Superfund cleanup process. Many of the activities listed below have been implemented prior to the publication of this CIP. These activities include those required by CERCLA/SARA. In addition, other site-specific support activities are important tools for keeping the community informed and involved. These site-specific activities will be implemented in response to community input and requests.

## **5.1 Activities Required By CERCLA/SARA**

The EPA will perform the following community involvement activities at the Libby Site as required by CERCLA/SARA for a time critical removal action lasting longer than 120 days:

- Designate a spokesperson;
- Notify affected citizens;
- Establish Administrative Record file and information repositories;
- Conduct community interviews; and
- Prepare and Revise Community Involvement Plan.

A discussion of each of these activities follows.

### **Designate a Spokesperson**

EPA will designate a spokesperson in a timely manner to inform the community of actions taken, respond to inquiries, and provide information concerning the release of hazardous substances.

### **Notify Affected Citizens**

The EPA designated spokesperson will notify promptly the citizens immediately affected by the release, as well as appropriate State and local officials.

### **Establish Administrative Record File and Information Repositories**

EPA will establish an Administrative Record and Site information repositories. The Administrative Record will be housed at the EPA Superfund Records Center in Denver, CO. and at the EPA Information Center in Libby, MT. The information repository, a subset of documents from the Administrative Record and site file will be located at the EPA Information Center in Libby, MT. These repositories contain basic site information, documents on site activities, technical site documents, this CIP, and general information about the Superfund program all for public review. EPA will place a notice in local newspapers of general circulation that notifies the public of the availability of the Administrative Record file and identifies the various information repository locations and the

hours of availability. The Administrative Record and information repositories will be updated as necessary.

## **Conduct Community Interviews**

EPA will interview local officials, community residents, public interest groups and other interested parties to identify the community's specific information needs and concerns, how best to communicate with residents and interested parties, and to determine the ways in which residents would like to become involved in the Superfund process.

## **Prepare and Revise Community Involvement Plan**

EPA is required to prepare this Community Involvement Plan (CIP) for all removal actions lasting longer than 120 days. EPA uses information obtained in the community interviews to guide community involvement activities until the CIP is complete and ultimately to develop the CIP. This CIP will be used by EPA in conducting community involvement activities as part of the Superfund process.

EPA will review this CIP and revise it, if necessary, to address issues and concerns that may arise during the removal action. Each revision will update the information provided in the current CIP, assess the effectiveness of approaches used for community involvement to the date of the revision, and propose a strategy for keeping the community informed and involved. Community interviews will be held again, if appropriate, before the CIP is revised.

## **5.2 Site-Specific Support Activities**

In addition to the community involvement activities described above, EPA considers the following community involvement activities important in helping the public provide meaningful input to the ongoing site activities.

- Prepare fact sheets and site activity updates;
- Issue press releases and other informational ads to news outlets;
- Coordinate workshops, small group meetings, availability sessions, and meetings with individuals;
- Brief local officials;
- Issue public notices; and
- Maintain an accurate mailing list.

The full extent of these site-specific support activities will depend on resources available. A brief discussion of each of these activities follows.

### **Prepare Fact Sheets and Site Activity Updates**

EPA Community Involvement Coordinator's will produce a variety of fact sheets for publication and distribution. These fact sheets may vary from an informal paragraph for a school or church flyer, to a four-page summary of a specific topic. In all cases, EPA and other stakeholders will benefit from having many people review the fact sheets for accuracy, readability, and visual appeal. The EPA is open to suggestions from the CAG and the general public on topics to write about based on their relevancy to the Site activities and their priority to the general public. With so many people reviewing fact sheets, an efficient

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## Community Involvement Activities

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process is necessary in order to get the documents completed and distributed in a timely way. EPA will work on streamlining this process with the CAG.

EPA will prepare fact sheets and activity updates describing activities and other relevant information about the Libby Site as necessary. These materials will be distributed to those on the mailing list and will also be available to the general public through the information repositories.

### **Issue Press Releases and other informational ads to news outlets**

The EPA will issue press releases to make an official statement at milestones in the removal program, such as key project dates, major decisions, or completion of cleanup actions. It is EPA's policy not to negotiate the timing or content of a press release. However, in an effort to communicate openly with affected stakeholders, EPA will send all press releases related to the Libby Site to CAG members at the same time it sends the release to the press.

EPA will try to alert the CAG members about an event that is coming up which may generate media interest and/or a press release. Anyone whose name is given to the press about any issue will be notified immediately.

EPA will provide information in the form of an ad with a Question and Answer on a weekly basis on topics which have been identified by community members as important or needing clarification.

### **Coordinate Workshops, Small Group Meetings, and Large Public Meetings, Meetings with Individuals**

Meetings with the community provide a forum for presentation and exchange of information. Effort will be made to present materials in a non-technical format and provide opportunities for interaction with meeting attendees to ensure that the information is understood. Such meetings also could be used to present a wide variety of information updates or to give slide shows or videotape presentations on site activities.

If necessary, specialized information, such as presentations on sampling or sample results, risk assessment, clean-up status etc., will be presented in workshops, small group meetings, and large public meetings. Meetings make it possible for EPA to get immediate feedback from the public on site specific issues. EPA staff remain available for interested parties to discuss their concerns on a person-to-person basis. Appointments can be made with EPA staff at the local Information Center or individuals can stop by the Center to see if someone is available to answer questions. When possible, EPA will share information directly with residents at their homes, particularly during field work such as sampling.

### **Brief Local Officials**

EPA will inform local officials of key events and activities. Formal notification of key events and activities and advance information on decisions and events are important to local officials. EPA's recent efforts in this regard have been effective according to interviewees and, therefore, should be continued.

### **Issue Public Notices**

As needed, EPA will issue public notices to provide an official announcement of EPA activities and plans, and to encourage public involvement in Agency decisions. EPA will publish these notices in the *Montanian* and the *Western News* and the *Tobacco Valley News*.

### **Maintain an Accurate Mailing List**

EPA will maintain an accurate mailing list of affected parties to disseminate information directly.

- AEC (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers). 1996. "Libby Dam and Lake Koocanusa Pamphlet."
- CAG (Community Advisory Group). March 23, 2000. "Meeting Summary." np. Internet access available at: <http://www.epa.gov/region8/superfund/libby/>
- EDC (Lincoln County Economic Development Council Web Site). May 2000. Various Pages. Internet access available at: <http://www.libby.org/EDC/>
- Grace (W.R. Grace & Co Web Site). April 2000. "Fact Book." Internet access available at: <http://www.grace.com/>
- Libby (City of Libby Web Site). May 2000. "Library Pages." Internet access available at: <http://www.libby.org/Library/timber.html>
- Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services, Office of Vital Statistics. 1998. Selected Vital Statistics by County of Occurrence Montana. Internet access available at: <http://www.dphhs.state.mt.us/>
- Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Office of Research & Analysis. 1998. Internet access available at: <http://rad.dli.state.mt.us>.
- Peronard, Paul, On-Scene Coordinator, Emergency Response Team, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 8. May 2000. "Request for a Time Critical Removal Action Approval and Exemption from the 12-month, \$2-million Statutory Limit at the Libby Asbestos Site-Export Plant & Screening Plant former Processing Areas, Libby, Lincoln County, Montana." Action Memorandum to Max H. Dodson, Assistant Regional Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 8.
- TVA (The Vermiculite Association Web Site). May and June 2000. Various Pages. Internet. Internet access available at: <http://www.vermiculite.org/>
- U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System. Per Capita Personal Income, May 1999, Internet access available at: <http://rad.dli.state.mt.us>.
- EPA (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency). March 2000a. "EPA Fact Sheet Asbestos Sampling Results." np. Internet access available at: <http://www.epa.gov/region8/superfund/libby/>
- EPA (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency). June 2000b. "EPA Action Updates." np. Internet access available at: <http://www.epa.gov/region08/superfund/sites/mt/libbyasb/lbbyenv/lbbyenv.html>
- Weis, Christopher P., U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 8 Toxicologist. "Residual mineral fiber contamination at the former W.R. Grace Screening Plant and Export Plant poses an imminent and substantial endangerment to public health." Draft Memorandum to Paul Peronard, On-Scene Coordinator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 8. May 10, 2000.

This section summarizes the information contained in the appendices attached to this report. These appendices contain specific reference information that will be used by the EPA when conducting community involvement activities in Libby. They are as follows:

- **Appendix A - Contacts:** This Appendix contains the information necessary to contact parties associated with the investigation and clean-up activities in Libby. Contact information includes the available addresses, telephone numbers, facsimile numbers, and e-mail addresses of various contacts. Contacts include such parties as federal, state, and local agency officials.
- **Appendix B - Community Advisory Group:** this Appendix contains the information necessary to contact members of the Community Advisory Group, alternate members or resources to the group.
- **Appendix C - Elected Officials:** This Appendix contains the names, addresses, telephone numbers, facsimile numbers, and e-mail addresses of federal, state and local elected officials.
- **Appendix D - Information Repositories:** This Appendix lists the addresses of the administrative record and information repositories.
- **Appendix E - Community Resource Centers:** This Appendix contains address and contact information for various local resources centers. Resource centers include such facilities as recreation centers, churches, senior centers, and hospitals or clinics.
- **Appendix F - Local Media:** This appendix contains essential local media information, such as the address, contact, and publication schedule information.
- **Appendix G - Public Meeting Locations:** This Appendix contains information on available meeting locations, such as meeting place capacity, hours of availability, location, and cost.
- **Appendix H - Community Interview Questionnaire:** This Appendix contains the community interview questionnaire form used by EPA to identify the Libby communities' concerns associated with investigation and cleanup activities.

## Appendix A

### Libby, Montana: Contacts

Contact Category	Program or Office	Contact Name/ Contact Title	Mailing Address	Phone Number/ Facsimile Number	Email Address
<b>U.S. Environmental Protection Agency</b>	Ecosystems Protection and Remediation	Max Dodson/ Assistant Regional Administrator	999 18 <sup>th</sup> Street Suite 300 (8EPR) Denver, CO 80202-2466	303-312-6598/ 303-312-6897	<a href="mailto:dodson.max@epa.gov">dodson.max@epa.gov</a>
	Preparedness, Assessment and Emergency Response	Doug Skie/ Director	999 18 <sup>th</sup> Street Suite 3s00 (8EPR-SA) Denver, CO 80202-2466	303-312-6827/ 303-312-6071	<a href="mailto:skie.douglas@epa.gov">skie.douglas@epa.gov</a>
		Paul Peronard/ On-Scene Coordinator	999 18 <sup>th</sup> Street Suite 300 (8EPR-SA) Denver, CO 80202-2466	1-800-227-8917 ext. 6808 or 303-312- 6808/303-312-6071	<a href="mailto:peronard.paul@epa.gov">peronard.paul@epa.gov</a>
		Johanna Miller/ On-Scene Coordinator	999 18 <sup>th</sup> Street Suite 300 (8EPR-SA) Denver, CO 80202-2466	1-800-277-8917 ext. 6804 or 303-312- 6804/303-312-6071	<a href="mailto:miller.johanna@epa.gov">miller.johanna@epa.gov</a>
		Duc Nguyen/ On-Scene Coordinator	999 18 <sup>th</sup> Street Suite 300 (8EPR-SA) Denver, CO 80202-2466	303-312-6509/ 303-312-6071	<a href="mailto:nguyen.duc@epa.gov">nguyen.duc@epa.gov</a>
	Program Support	Dr. Chris Weis/ Regional Toxicologist	999 18 <sup>th</sup> Street Suite 300 (8EPR-PS) Denver, CO 80202-2466	1-800-277-8917 ext. 6671 or 303-312- 6671/ 303-312-6897	<a href="mailto:weis.chris@epamail.epa.gov">weis.chris@epamail.epa.gov</a>
	Superfund Community Involvement	Wendy Thomi/ Community Involvement Coordinator	USEPA Region 8 (8MO) Montana Office 301 South Park Drawer 10096 Helena, MT 59626-0096	406-441-1150 x241/ 406-441-1126	<a href="mailto:thomi.wendy@epa.gov">thomi.wendy@epa.gov</a>

Contact Category	Program or Office	Contact Name/ Contact Title	Mailing Address	Phone Number/ Facsimile Number	Email Address
<b>U.S. Environmental Protection Agency</b>	Superfund Remedial Response Program	John Wardell	USEPA Region 8 (8MO) Montana Office 301 South Park Drawer 10096 Helena, MT 59626-0096	406-441-1123/ 406-441-1125	<a href="mailto:wardell.john@epa.gov">wardell.john@epa.gov</a>
	Legal Enforcement Program	Matthew Cohn/ CERCLA Attorney	999 18 <sup>th</sup> Street Suite 300 (8ENF-L) Denver, CO 80202-2466	303-312-6853/ 303-312-6953	<a href="mailto:cohn.matthew@epa.gov">cohn.matthew@epa.gov</a>
	Technical Enforcement Program	Kelcey Land	999 18 <sup>th</sup> Street Suite 300 (8ENF-T) Denver, CO 80202-2466	303-312-6393 303-312-6409	<a href="mailto:land.kelcey@epa.gov">land.kelcey@epa.gov</a>
<b>Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)</b>	Regional Representatives	Dan Strausbaugh	301 Mineral Ave. Libby, MT 59923	406-293-2728/ 406-293-5668	<a href="mailto:lcehp@libby.org">lcehp@libby.org</a>
			Montana Office 301 South Park Drawer 10096 Helena, MT 59626-0096	406-441-1150 x 257/ 406-441-1125	<a href="mailto:strausbaugh.dan@epa.gov">strausbaugh.dan@epa.gov</a>
<b>Montana Department of Environmental Quality</b>	Hazardous Waste and Site Cleanup Bureau	John Constan/ Project Manager	Metcalf Building Office 1520 E. Sixth Avenue P.O. Box 200901 Helena, MT 59620	406-444-1438/ 406-444-1901	<a href="mailto:jconstan@state.mt.us">jconstan@state.mt.us</a>
	Director's Office	Tom Ellerhoff/ Administrative Officer	Metcalf Building Office 1520 E. Sixth Avenue P.O. Box 200901 Helena, MT 59620	406-444-5263/ 406-444-4386	<a href="mailto:tellerhoff@state.mt.us">tellerhoff@state.mt.us</a>
	Director's Office	Dan Rapkoch/ Communications	Metcalf Building Office 1520 E. Sixth Avenue P.O. Box 200901 Helena, MT 59620	406-444-2929/ 406-444-4386	<a href="mailto:drapkoch@state.mt.us">drapkoch@state.mt.us</a>

Contact Category	Program or Office	Contact Name/ Contact Title	Mailing Address	Phone Number/ Facsimile Number	Email Address
Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services		Todd Damrow/ Epidemiologist	117 Commerce Way Libby, MT 59923	406-444-3986/ 406-293-5549	<a href="mailto:tdamrow@state.mt.us">tdamrow@state.mt.us</a>
		Mike Spence/ Medical Officer	117 Commerce Way Libby, MT 59923	406-444-1286/ 406-444-0272	<a href="mailto:mspence@state.mt.us">mspence@state.mt.us</a>
Lincoln County Environmental Health Department		Ron Anderson/ Director	418 Mineral Ave. Libby, MT 59923	406-293-7781 ext. 228/ 406-293-5340	<a href="mailto:lcdeh@libby.org">lcdeh@libby.org</a>
		Dr. Brad Black/ County Medical Officer	418 Mineral Ave. Libby, MT 59923	406-293-7781 ext. 228/ 406-293-3045	<a href="mailto:bblack@libby.org">bblack@libby.org</a>
City of Libby		Mayor Anthony Berget	P.O. Box 1428 Libby, MT 59923	406-293-1776/ 406-293-4090	<a href="mailto:aberget@libby.org">aberget@libby.org</a>

## Appendix B

### Libby, Montana: Community Advisory Group

Contact Name	Title/Organization	Mailing Address	Phone Number/ Facsimile Number	Email Address	CAG Function
Ron Anderson	Lincoln County Environmental. Health Department	418 Mineral Ave. Libby, MT 59923	406- 293-7781 Ext. 228/ 406- 293-5340	<a href="mailto:lcdeh@libby.org">lcdeh@libby.org</a>	Member
Joyce Baeth	Libby City Council	952 East Spruce Street P.O. Box 1428 Libby, MT 59923	406-293-6440/ 406-293-4212	--	Member
George Bauer	President, Libby City Council	203 E. Spruce Libby, MT 59923	406-293-6440/ 406-293-4212	--	Alternate Member for Tony Berget
Kerry Beasley	Board Chair, St. Johns Lutheran Hospital	P.O. Box 726 Libby, MT 59923	406- 293-3325	<a href="mailto:beasley@libby.org">beasley@libby.org</a>	Member
Gayla Benefield	Lincoln County Asbestos Victims Relief Organization	245 Cedar Meadow Rd. Libby, MT 59923	406-293-5535	<a href="mailto:gaylab@libby.org">gaylab@libby.org</a>	Member
Anthony J. Berget	Mayor, City of Libby	952 East Spruce Street P.O. Box 1428 Libby, MT 59923	406-293-1776 (cell) 406- 293-2731(city hall)/ 406- 293-4090	<a href="mailto:aberget@libby.org">aberget@libby.org</a>	Member
Dr. Brad Black	Lincoln County Health Officer	Box 1442 Libby, MT 59923	406- 293-0981/ 406- 293-9274	<a href="mailto:bblack@libby.org">bblack@libby.org</a>	Member
Grayson Casey	Realtor, Munro Realtors	505 Hwy. 2 West P.O. Box 1484 Libby, MT 59923	406- 293-7721	<a href="mailto:grayson@libby.org">grayson@libby.org</a>	Member

## Appendix B

### Libby, Montana: Community Advisory Group

Contact Name	Title/Organization	Mailing Address	Phone Number/ Facsimile Number	Email Address	CAG Function
Bob Dedrick	Asbestos Victim	214 Colorado Ave. Libby, MT 59923	406-293-3227	<a href="mailto:trdrbob@libby.org">trdrbob@libby.org</a>	Member
Susan Feeback	Realtor, Kootenai Homes and Land Realty	P.O. Box 1282 Libby, MT 59923	406- 293-6151/ 406- 293-3012	<a href="mailto:realty@libby.org">realty@libby.org</a>	Alternate Member for Grayson Casey
Tom Fennessy	St. John's Lutheran Hospital	P.O. Box 726 Libby, MT 59923	406-293-3325	--	Alternate Member for Kerry Beasley
Robert Foote	Libby Ministerial Association	731 Main Ave. Libby, MT 59923	406-293-4522	<a href="mailto:bdfoote@libby.org">bdfoote@libby.org</a>	Member
Kenny Hays	Libby resident	1508 Kaniksu Libby, MT 59923	406-293-5321	--	Alternate Member for Wilbur Wilson
George Keck	Libby Resident	8561 Farm to Market Rd. Libby, MT 59923	406-293-7446	--	Alternate Member for Bob Dedrick
John Konzen	Lincoln County Commissioner	P.O.Box 449 Troy, MT 59935	406- 295-4420/ 406- 293-8577	<a href="mailto:jkonzen@libby.org">jkonzen@libby.org</a>	Member
David Latham	Editor, The Montanian	P.O. Box 946 Libby, MT 59923	406- 293-8202/ 406- 293-8202 (call first)	<a href="mailto:montanian@libby.org">montanian@libby.org</a>	Member
Cyrus Lee	Kootenai Valley Head Start	712 Louisiana Libby, MT 59923	406- 293-4502/ 406- 293-9799	<a href="mailto:kvhstart@libby.org">kvhstart@libby.org</a>	Member

## Appendix B

### Libby, Montana: Community Advisory Group

Contact Name	Title/Organization	Mailing Address	Phone Number/ Facsimile Number	Email Address	CAG Function
Kirby Maki	Superintendent/ Libby School District	724 Louisiana Ave. Libby, MT 59923	406- 293-8811/ 406- 293-8812	<a href="mailto:kwmaki@libby.org">kwmaki@libby.org</a>	Member
Clinton Maynard	Area Asbestos Research Group (AARG)	1116 Louisiana Avenue Libby, MT 59923	406- 293-9545	--	Member
Rick Palagi	CEO, St. Johns Lutheran Hospital Inc.	350 Louisiana Ave. Libby, MT 59923	406- 293-7761/ 406- 293-4428	<a href="mailto:rpalagi@sjlh.com">rpalagi@sjlh.com</a>	Member
Norita Skramstad	Asbestos Victim	3647 S. Hwy 2 Libby, MT 59923	406- 293-6602	--	Member
Jenan Swenson- Dedrick	Libby Resident	505 Granite Ave. Libby, MT 59923	406-293-2477	--	Alternate for Gayla Benefield
Mike Switzer	Asbestos Victim	550 Arabian Lane Libby, MT 59923	406- 293-2512	<a href="mailto:mswitzer@libby.org">mswitzer@libby.org</a>	Member
Leroy Thom	Former Union President	143 Park St. Libby, MT 59923	406- 293-8731 (work) 406- 293-9174 (home)/ 406- 293-8733	--	Member
Bob Tunis/ Director	Economic Development Council, Inc.	P.O. Box 621 Libby, MT 59923	406- 293-8406/ 406- 293-3222	<a href="mailto:rtunis@libby.org">rtunis@libby.org</a>	Member

## Appendix B

### Libby, Montana: Community Advisory Group

Contact Name	Title/Organization	Mailing Address	Phone Number/ Facsimile Number	Email Address	CAG Function
Sandy Wagner	Libby Resident	P.O. Box 153 Libby, MT 59923	406-293-5010 406-293-6244 (work) / 406-293-6969	--	Member
Don Wilkins	Lumber and Sawmill Workers #2581	P.O. Box 335 Libby, MT 59923	406- 293-5095	<a href="mailto:wilkins@libby.org">wilkins@libby.org</a>	Member
Wilbur Wilson	President/Lincoln County Council on Ageing	205 W. Spruce St. Libby, MT 59923	406- 293-3889	<a href="mailto:wilson@libby.org">wilson@libby.org</a>	Member
Rita Windom	Lincoln County Commissioner	512 California Ave. Libby, MT 59923	406- 293-7781 ext. 208/ 406- 293-8577	<a href="mailto:rwindom@libby.org">rwindom@libby.org</a>	Member
Paul Peronard	On-Scene Coordinator/U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	U.S. EPA Region 8 (8EPR-SA) 999 18 <sup>th</sup> St.; Suite 500 Denver, CO 80202-2466	(303) 312-6808 (office) (303) 886-1638 (cell) 1-800-227-8917 x 6808/ (303) 312-6071	<a href="mailto:peronard.paul@epa.gov">peronard.paul@epa.gov</a>	CAG Resource
Wendy Thomi	Community Involvement Coordinator/U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	U.S. EPA Region 8 - Montana Office 301 S. Park, Drawer 10096 Helena, MT 59626-0096	406- 441-1150 x241/ 406- 441-1126	<a href="mailto:thomi.wendy@epa.gov">thomi.wendy@epa.gov</a>	CAG Resource
Linda Newstrom	EPA Information Center	501 Mineral Avenue Libby, MT 59923	406- 293-6194/ 406- 293-5668	<a href="mailto:cdmfed_newstrom@yahoo.com">cdmfed_newstrom@yahoo.com</a>	CAG Resource

## Appendix B

### Libby, Montana: Community Advisory Group

Contact Name	Title/Organization	Mailing Address	Phone Number/ Facsimile Number	Email Address	CAG Function
John Constan	Project Manager/ Montana Department of Environmental Quality	2209 Phoenix Avenue Helena, MT 59620	406- 444-1438/ 406- 444-1901	<a href="mailto:jconstan@state.mt.us">jconstan@state.mt.us</a>	CAG Resource
Dan Strausbaugh	Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry	301 S. Park; Drawer 10096 Helena, MT 59626	406- 441-1150 x257/ 406- 441-1126	<a href="mailto:strausbaugh.dan@epa.gov">strausbaugh.dan@epa.gov</a>	CAG Resource
		501 Mineral Ave. Libby, MT 59923	406- 293-2728/ 406- 293-5668	<a href="mailto:lcehp@libby.org">lcehp@libby.org</a>	
Alan Stringer	W.R. Grace & Co.	317 Mineral Avenue Libby, MT 59923	406- 293-3964/ 406- 293-3749	--	CAG Resource
Gerald Mueller	Facilitator/ Consensus Associates	7165 Old Grant Creek Rd. Missoula, MT 59808	406- 543-0026/ 406- 549-9455	<a href="mailto:mueller@bigsky.com">mueller@bigsky.com</a>	CAG Facilitator
Mike Giesey	Alternate Facilitator	8555 Bull Lake Rd. Troy, MT 59935	406- 295-3058	--	CAG Alternate Facilitator

## Appendix C

### Libby, Montana: Elected Officials

Contact Category	Association or Department	Contact Name/ Contact Title	Mailing Address	Phone Number/ Facsimile Number	Email Address
<b>Federal Government</b>	U.S. Congress	Conrad Burns/ U.S. Senator	183 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510	202-224-2644 or 1-800-344-1513/ 202-224-8594 Fax/ TDD 202-224-8616	conrad_burns@burns.sen ate.gov
			575 Sunset Blvd., Suite 101 Kalispell, MT 59901	406-257-3360/ 406-257-3974	
	U.S. Congress	Max Baucus/ U.S. Senator	511 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510	202-224-2651 or 1-800-332-6106 or	max@baucus.senate.gov
			Kalispell Office 220 1st Avenue East Kalispell, MT 59901	406-756-1150 TDD 202-224-1998	
	U.S. Congress	Dennis Rehberg U.S. Representative	Home Office Building 516 Cannon Washington, D.C. 20515- 2601	202-225-3211/ 202-225-5687	rehberg2000.com/contact. asp
			200 E. Broadway Room 104 Missoula, MT 59807	406-543-9550	
			P.O. Box 1597 Helena, MT 59624	406-252-1776/ 406-252-2884 FAX	

Contact Category	Association or Department	Contact Name/ Contact Title	Mailing Address	Phone Number/ Facsimile Number	Email Address
State Government	Governor of Montana	Judy Martz Governor	State Capitol, Helena, MT 59620-0801.	406-444-3111 (immed. office) 1-800-332-2272 (Citizen's advocate)	
	Montana State Senate	William S. Crismore/ State Senator District 41	237 Airfield Road Libby, MT 59923-8600	406-293-7405/ 406-293-4059	crismore@libby.org
	Montana State Congress	Eileen Carney State Representative District 82	P.O. Box 1193 Libby, MT 59923-1193	406-293-6407	jecarney@libby.org
County Government	Lincoln County Commissioners	Marianne Roose/ County Commissioner (Eureka)	512 California Avenue Libby, MT 59923-1942	406-293-7781 ext. 207 Libby 406-296-3039 Eureka 406-296-4420 Troy 406-293-8577 Fax	--
	Lincoln County Commissioners	Rita Windom/ County Commissioner (Libby)	512 California Avenue Libby, MT 59923-1942	406-293-7781 ext. 207 Libby 406-296-3039 Eureka 406-296-4420 Troy 406-293-8577 Fax	rwindom@libby.org
	Lincoln County Commissioners	John Konzen/ County Commissioner (Troy)	512 California Avenue Libby, MT 59923-1942	406-293-7781 ext. 207 Libby 406-296-3039 Eureka 406-296-4420 Troy 406-293-8577 Fax	jkonzen@libby.org
	Mayor of Libby	Anthony J. Berget/ Mayor	952 East Spruce Street P.O. Box 1428 Libby, MT 59923	406-293-2731	aberget@libby.org

City Government

Contact Category	Association or Department	Contact Name/ Contact Title	Mailing Address	Phone Number/ Facsimile Number	Email Address
	Libby City Council	George Bauer/ Council President	952 East Spruce Street P.O. Box 1428 Libby, MT 59923	406-293-2731	gbnt@libby.org
	Libby City Council	Joyce Baeth Council Member	952 East Spruce Street P.O. Box 1428 Libby, MT 59923	406-293-2731	cityoflibby@libby.org
City Government	Libby City Council	Ken Sorenson/ Council Member	952 East Spruce Street P.O. Box 1428 Libby, MT 59923	406-293-2731	kesoren@libby.org
	Libby City Council	Dan Stephens/ Council Member	952 East Spruce Street P.O. Box 1428 Libby, MT 59923	406-293-2731	lval@lclink.com
	Libby City Council	Jane Thom/ Council Member	952 East Spruce Street P.O. Box 1428 Libby, MT 59923	406-293-2731	thom@libby.org
	Libby City Council	Judy Porter/ Council Member	952 East Spruce Street P.O. Box 1428 Libby, MT 59923	406-293-2731	porter@libby.org

## Appendix D

### Libby, Montana: Information Repositories

Information Repository Name	Street Address	Contact Name/ Contact Title	Phone Number/ Facsimile Number	Hours of Operation
EPA Information Center	501 Mineral Avenue Libby, MT 59923	Linda Newstrom	(406) 293-6194	Monday 8:30-5:00 pm Tuesday 8:30-5:00 pm Wednesday 8:30-5:00 pm Thursday 8:30-5:00 pm Friday 8:30-5:00 pm
U.S. EPA Records Center	999 18 <sup>th</sup> Street North Terrace 5 <sup>th</sup> Floor Denver, CO 80202-2405	Pat White	(303) 312-6680	Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 4:30 pm
		Linda Reardon	(303)-312-6473	

## Appendix E

### Libby, Montana: Community Resource Centers

Resource Center	Street Address	Phone Number/ Facsimile Number	Contact Name/ Contact Title	Hours of Operation
Senior Citizen Center	206 E.2nd Libby, MT 59923	406-293-7222	Lee Dexter	variable
St. John's Lutheran Hospital	350 Louisiana Ave. Libby, MT 59923	406-293-0100	Receptionist	all hours
Center for Asbestos Related Disease	216 W. 4 <sup>th</sup> Libby, MT	406-293-9274	Pat Cohan	M - F 8:00 - 4:30
Libby Public Library	220 W. 6 <sup>th</sup> Libby, MT 59923	406-293-2778	Gail Anderson Reference Librarian	M - F - 9:30 - 6:00 Sat. - 9:30 - 3:00
Troy Public Library	207 N. 3 <sup>rd</sup> . Troy, MT 59935	406-295-4040	Judy Williams Librarian	Winter T, W, Th, F- 1-6/ Sat. 11-1 Summer - T, Th 11-6, W 1-6 Sat. 11-1
Libby Chamber of Commerce	905 W. 9 <sup>th</sup> Libby, MT 59923	406-293-4167 406-293-5042	Chamber office Tim Steele, President	M - F 10:00 - 2:00 for information
Veterans of Foreign Wars US 1548	114 W. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Libby, MT 59923	406-293-7316	Dick Sharpe	variable
Libby Community Interagencies	724 Louisiana Ave. Libby, MT 59923	406-293-3951	Pam Rhodes	M - F 8:00 - 5:00

## Appendix F

### Libby, Montana: Media

Publication Name/ Website	Mailing Address	Contact Name/ Contact Title	Phone Number/ Facsimile Number	Email Address	Days of Publication	Costs	Ad Deadline
The Western News/ www.libby.org/WesternNews/ welcome.html	P.O. Box 1377 Libby, MT 59923	Roger Morris/ Editor	406-293-4124	rmorris@westnews.com	Tuesday and Thursday	\$4.90 per column inch	12:00 p.m. Mon. or 5:00 p.m. Wed.
		Barb Swenson					
Montanian/ www.libby.org/montanian	P.O. Box 946 312 Mineral Ave. Libby, MT 59923	David F. Latham/ Ad Manager	406-293-8202	montanian@libby.org	Tuesday	\$4.25 per column inch	1 p.m. Monday
The Tobacco Valley News/ www.tobaccovalleynews.com	602 Dewey Ave, Eureka, MT 59917	Steve Newman Editor and Publisher	406-296-2514/ 406-296-2515	editor@tobaccovalley news.com	Wednesday	\$5.00 per column inch	12:00 p.m. Monday
The Daily Interlake/ www.dailyinterlake.com	P.O. Box 7610 727 E. Idaho Kalispell, MT 59904	Lynette Hintze/ Reporter	406-758-4421/ 406-752-6114	lhintze@dailyinterlake. com	Daily		
		Carie Gress	406-758-4409 / 406-752-6114	adsend@dailyinterlake. com		variable prepaid w/ credit card (M or V)	5 p.m. 3 days before publication date
		Michael Jamison, Reporter	(406) 387-4233 1-800-366-7186 / (406) 387-4579	mjamison@missoulian. com			

The Missoulian/  
www.missoulian.com

P.O. Box 8029  
500 S. Higgins  
Missoula, MT  
59807

Daily

## Appendix F

### Libby, Montana: Media

Publication Name/ Website	Mailing Address	Contact Name/ Contact Title	Phone Number/ Facsimile Number	Email Address	Days of Publication	Costs	Ad Deadline
		Jessica Boynton, Display Ads	406-523-5236 / 406-523-5221	ads-white@ missoulia.com		\$20.60 per column inch 23.70 on Sunday	4 days before publica- tion
The Seattle Post Intelligencer www.seattle-pi.com	101 Elliot Ave. W. Seattle WA 98119	Andrew Schneider, Reporter	206-448-8218 / 206-448-8209	andrewschneider@seattl e-pi.com	Daily		
KLCB Radio	251 W. Cedar Libby, MT 59923	Duane Williams	406-293-6234 / 406-293-6235		daily broadcast	variable	

## Appendix G

### Libby, Montana: Public Meeting Locations

Meeting Location	Street Address	Phone Number/ Facsimile Number	Contact Name/ Contact Title	Capacity (no. of people)	Hours of Operation	Cost
<b>Ponderosa Room Libby City Hall</b>	952 E. Spruce	406-293-2731	Kim Aarstadt	168	variable	\$25.00 plus setup and breakdown
<b>Libby Schools</b>	various locations	406-293-8811	Kirby Maki, Libby Schools Superintendant	variable	variable	no charge
<b>VFW Community Hall</b>	114 W. 2nd	406-293-7316	Dick Sharpe	400	variable	no charge for community meetings charge for setup, cleaning or catering.
<b>Venture Motor Inn</b>	443 Highway 2 West	406-293-7711 1-800-221-0166	Linda Gerard	20-70	variable	variable depending on needs and meals

## Appendix H

### EPA Community Interview for Residents of Libby, Montana

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Interviewers: \_\_\_\_\_

#### PART A

1. Address:

2. Phone:

3A. Please list the names and DOB of all immediate (brothers, sisters, kids and parents) family members  
(List below and indicate with an \* all members that participated in the interview)

3B1. Are your children living at home? Y / N (enter in table below)

3B2. If no, is he/she living in Libby? Y / N (enter in table below)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DOB</u> <small>(Age, if DOB is unknown)</small>	Children are living		If a child is not at home, Please list <u>current address</u> :
		At home	In Libby	

4A. How long has your family has been living in Libby, MT? \_\_\_\_\_ years

4B. How long has your family has been living at your current address:? \_\_\_\_\_ years

15A. When was your house built? \_\_\_\_\_

If unknown, what is the approximate age of the residence \_\_\_\_\_ years

## PART B

5. When you have health concerns about asbestos, where do you go for information?

7A. Do you have any specific concerns about asbestos exposure?

7B. If yes, please describe:

## PART C

9A. Did anyone in the family work at the Zonolite mine or the vermiculite processing operations?

If Yes, please answer the following questions, if No or Don't know, skip to Question 12.

9B.	9C.	9D1.	9D2.	9E.
Name(s) of workers	Job Title(s) or short description of work duties:	Dates of employment (yr. to yr.)	If dates unknown, provide duration of employment and approximate start and/or stop dates	Location(s) of work 1. Mine 2. RR loading area 3. Export site 4. Other (describe) 5. Unknown (mark all that apply)

10. Typically after a day of work, did family members, working in the vermiculite mining or processing operations:  
(Circle one) a) change clothes at work, b) wear their work clothes home, or c) other? (please describe)

11A. How did family members most frequently get to and from the vermiculite work site?  
(Circle one) 1. Personal vehicle, 2. Ride from co-worker, 3. Bus, 4. Other (please describe):

11B. If a personal vehicle was used for work transportation was it frequently found to have accumulations of dust/dirt from the work site in it? Yes / No / Don't know

12. Was the vermiculite from the mine used in or around your home? Yes / No / Don't know  
(if No, or Don't know, skip to Question 18.)

12B. Was the vermiculite that was used in/around or your home purchased from a store? Yes / No / Don't know  
If No, 1. Where did you get it from?

2. Was it free? Y / N / Don't know

13A. Was the vermiculite used for insulation? Yes / No / Don't know (if no skip to 13B):

A1. If yes, describe locations (e.g., attic, walls)

A2. Is dust from the vermiculite insulation often noticeable in any of the living areas of the house?  
Yes / No / Don't know

13B. Was the vermiculite used for 1. Gardens, 2. Planting, 3. Greenhouse (circle all that apply)

13C. Were there other ways that vermiculite was used? Yes / No / Don't know

13D. If yes, please describe:

14A. Aside from working at the mine, has anyone in the family been employed in a job with potential exposure to asbestos such as welding, automotive repair, plumbing, duct work, roofing, carpentry, insulation installation?

Y / N / Don't know

14B and 14C. If yes, please tell us:

B. Who

C. What kind of work: 1. welding, 2. automotive repair,  
3. plumbing, 4. duct work, 4. roofing, 5. carpentry,  
6. Insulation installation, 7. Other (please describe)


15B. Are you aware of any asbestos-containing-products other than vermiculite in your home such as floor tiles, pipe insulation, siding? Yes / No / NA / RA

15C. If yes, what are they: (circle all that apply) 1. Floor tiles, 2. Pipe Insulation, 3. Siding, 4. Insulation, 5. Other (please describe):

## PART D

16A. Besides work, did you or family participate in any activities that bring you frequently into contact with the Zonolite mine, processing facilities, or the vermiculite? Y / N / NA / RA

16B. If yes, please describe these activities:  
-----

16C. Where did these activities occur:

18A. When the mine was operating, or more recently, do you believe that dust from the vermiculite mining or processing operations was accumulating on your property or in your home? Yes / No / NA

18b. If Yes, describe why you believed this was occurring:

19. Can you think of any way that vermiculite might have gotten into your home now or when you were growing up (i.e., on clothing) If so, please describe these activities:

20. Do you know of areas around town where vermiculite from the mine has been placed?

21A. As a child, where did you most frequently play?

21B. What was the area like? (please describe)

21C. Where did your children most frequently play?

22A. Are there areas of Libby that you believe present a risk from asbestos to residents?

22B. If yes, where:

17. Is there anything else you would like to say about the Zeolite mine or vermiculite in general?

23A. Is there anything you'd like more information about?

23B. If yes, what:

26. Who do you think are the formal and informal leaders in your community?

28. Is there anything you would like to add?

**Thank you!**